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THE MEMORIAL HISTORY

OF THE

Felch Family

IN

AMERICA AND WALES.

The Earliest and Latest Records,—1641—1881.

By W. Farrand Felch, Columbus, Ohio.

Press of J. F. Earhart & Co., Columbus, Ohio.
1881.

WILLIAM FELCH ESQ.

[Founder of Felchville, Vermont.]

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1751

In Cambria are we born, and gentlemen:
Further to boast were neither true nor modest,
Unless I add, we are honest. CYMBELINE.

But, somehow my soul was ever lifting itself up, and gazing forward upon posterity, as if, when it should depart from this life it would then begin to live. THE ELDER CATO.

The stream is brightest at its spring,
And blood is not like wine,
Nor honored less than he who heirs
Is he who founds a line. JOHN G. WHITTIER.

13.4
(1058)
Jan. 11-1890

INTRODUCTORY.

As the life of an individual furnishes, upon the whole, the most agreeable of all literary subjects, other than the merely romantic, to the majority of readers, so the life of a family, duly traced and authenticated, ought to supply matter of no common utility, both for amusement and instruction. It has often been remarked how the great Gentes of Roman history—the Valerii, the Claudii, the Scipios, and others—seemed to prolong, generation after generation, particular types, not only of political sentiment and conduct, but of personal character: and the same has been observed in respect to the English races which have taken from father to son so large a share in political and social life,— the Percys, Mortimers, and Cliffords in the old days, the Howards, Russells, Grenvilles, and many more in later times, have constituted not merely households but castes. As much may be said of our later civilization in America, with respect to the families of Adams, Winthrop, Randolph, Lee, Hancock, as well as many others we might mention.

How true then is the observation of a recent writer: "A family may be considered a man of larger, longer growth, of character vastly more rich, complex, and pregnant, but of no less distinct an individuality than ordinary men's. The family is young, grows up, and prospers or dies,— its years are generations, each with its event and experience, inevitably bearing upon the future." After all, the tastes, interests, family attachments, personal hopes and fears of men, do not vary so much in the course of centuries as our first fancies would lead us to imagine. The metal is the same, the setting only different.

When we look back at the nobility of the Old World, with admiration, it is proper that our pride should not fail to recognize the outgrowth of these older civilizations in our own country, for family pride like charity should begin at home. But ours is not a nation of hero-worshippers. The reason American genealogy has not won for itself a right to be respected is not merely because ours is a conglomerate civilization, nor because its beginnings were so recent, but because our hasty progress does not permit us to look very far into the past, and our hurried mode of life does not allow us time to collect into suitable and enduring forms the records of the Past.

It is not unusual to find family records, but they are in an imperfect state, on stray pieces of paper, liable to be lost, or in the family Bible, generally incomplete and illogical in arrangement.

As a people, Americans have little pride of ancestry, and are quite too busy with the present to think or care much for the past and yet the past had much to do with our present, and we who are now upon the stage of action will have quite as much to do in moulding the characters of those who come after us.

We inherit much besides worldly estate and physical constitution from parents and progenitors ; a little study of this inheritance will profit us as much as our other worldly concerns.

PREFACE.

Our object in presenting this Memorial, a work of gratitude and respect, is to foster and cherish the memory of our progenitors. Let it not be supposed that we desire to create a false family pride, not at all commensurate with the achievements of our ancestors, or of those of later times. We merely consider our self-imposed task as a duty we owe to those who shall rise up after us, as well as an act of reverence to those who have but gone before. Our researches, extending over a period of ten years, have given us sufficient reasons for inferring that the distinguishing traits of our fore-fathers were inherited by each and every branch. Our quiet family annals are really remarkable in the sense that such as we were at the origin, such we have always remained, as regards distinguishing qualities.

Our ancestors never acquired any peculiar renown, and never had greatness thrust upon them, in the popular sense of the term. We have never deviated into literature or art, until late years; we have recruited the legal and clerical, but very seldom the medical profession. There are, however, frequent examples of the heroic to be found in our annals. Our family has sent its quota to maintain our country's honor: at the capture of Louisburg, Cape Breton Island: in the Revolutionary war; the war of 1812; the war with Mexico; and in the recent rebellion.

In other respects we are not behind families of co-extensive progress. Our ancestors were pioneers in settling some of the oldest towns of New England: Boston, Gloucester, Watertown, Reading, Weston, Waltham, Newton, Natick, Royalston, and Walpole, as well as FELCHVILLE in Massachusetts; Seabrook, Weare, and other towns in New Hampshire; FELCHVILLE in Vermont, Canterbury in Connecticut, and useful, and honorable citizens of a hundred other towns, throughout the land.

Our history numbers here
Some names and scenes to long remembrance dear,
And summer verdure clothes the lowly breast
Of the small hillock where our fathers rest.
Theirs was the dauntless heart, the hand, the voice,
That bade the desert blossom and rejoice.

"In Memoriam Majorum."

THE MEMORIAL HISTORY OF THE

Felch Family.

PART FIRST: The Colonial Period.

Chapter I. Our Emigrant Ancestors.

"If we tried
To sink the past beneath our feet, be sure
The future would not stand."

Elizabeth Barrett Browning.

We know little in regard to our Emigrant Ancestor, Henry Felch, or Ffelch, previous to his emigration to America, but we have now in progress an extensive investigation, the results of which will be made known before this History is completed. We first find Henry Felch Senior, one of the earliest settlers, and proprietors of Gloucester, Massachusetts, in 1641, and of Watertown in 1642. The earliest record we have relates indirectly to his residence in Gloucester. It is found in the Gloucester records:

"Samuel Haieward married to ————, daughter of Henry Felch, March 2d 1641. Samuell, sonne of Samuell Haieward, borne by his wife, Jann 4th 1642. John, sonne of Samuell Haieward, borne by his wife, Decem: 24, 1643."

According to the will of Henry Felch Senior, he had other daughters; one who married Samuel Dunton of Reading, and one who married John Wiburn, mariner; besides a son, Henry Felch Junior, of Reading: all born in Wales, probably. The family name has various permutations in this country: Felch, Falch, Mc Falch, Feltch, and Felch. In Wales it is also subject to considerable change, and is written Felcks, Foulches, and Foulcks, being of the same descent as the Hughes family, Barons of Edeirnion, County Merioneth, Wales, which derives a royal lineage through the ancient Princes of Powys and the monarchs of North and South Wales, from Roderick the Great, or Rhodri Mawr, twenty-eight descents, as given elsewhere in this Record.

In Babson's History of Gloucester, the following is found: "Henry Felch was here in 1642, and was the owner of six acres of hoed ground, of which there is no grant in the records. From this fact, it may be inferred that he was a settler before the incorporation of the town. He also had a house and land which he sold to James Avery. He may have removed to Reading, where a person of the same name resided in 1647; and next perhaps to Boston, where the name is found in 1657. He had a daughter who married Samuel Haieward."

Mr Babson is incorrect in supposing the father identical with the son, as will soon be proven. The son lived in Reading.

In regard to the property owned by our earliest American ancestor, in Gloucester, we find in the Gloucester records, through the kindness of Mr. John J. Babson, the following:

"Upon the 11th of the 9th month, 1642,——

"It is ordered that the highwaie be laid out through the lott of Mr. Fryer, Walter Tybott, and Hugh Calkin, who shall have consideration out of Henry Felch his sixe acres of hoed ground for that which the Towne takes from them, the Towne giving Henry Felch such satisfaction for his labor as is thought fit by ffour men as are chosen to see his labor."

This gives an insight into the quaint customs of municipal management in the early times of the republic; it also illustrates the energetic nature of our ancestor,— he desires the highway to benefit him, by making it one of the boundaries of his land, and in order to accomplish this end he must perform the labor of road making himself, and also make compensation to others for damages to their property. Such is our understanding of the record.

The following, without date, occurs among the record of the lots of land recorded to James Avery:

"He bought of Henry Ffelch 3 acres of upland, one Acre joyninge to the house he bought of him which lyes next to the Lott that was James Smith's, and 2 ackers of upland lying at the head of Goodman Streeter's lott and betwixt Wilb. Meade's and goodman Baker's and bounded with the common."

The above mentioned are the six acres of hoed ground that belonged to him; as there is no date to the transaction, we cannot ascertain when he left Gloucester, and took up his residence in Watertown, but probably immediately after the disposal of his estate in Gloucester. It will readily be inferred from the above that, during his residence in Gloucester, he acquired considerable influence and importance, and that his six acres of hoed

ground were undoubtedly considered quite a fortune to the possessor in those days.

In regard to the daughter of Henry Felch who married Samuel Hayward, there is no record of her death, but it was probably previous to her father's death in 1670, as she is not mentioned in his will. "A Samuel Hayward of Boston, by wife Isabel had three children: James, born Dec., 16, 1645; Samuel, born May 4, 1646, perverse date; and Peter, born Aug., 4, 1654," as Savage informs us in his Genealogical Dictionary: but there is no conclusive evidence to prove them identical.

Another daughter, name unknown, married Samuel Dunton, of Reading; their children were all born in Reading:

Samuel, born Oct., 15, 1647; Hannah, born Feb., 24, 1650; Nathaniel, born Jan., 16, 1656: Elizabeth, Mar., 25, 1658; Sarah, born Mar., 28, 1660: Mary, born Mar., 5, 1662.

The father, Samuel Sen., died in 1683.

Henry Felch Senior was married twice, evidently. The first wife, he probably married in Wales: there is the record of death of Margarett, wife of Henry Felch, June 23, 1655. The second wife, Elizabeth, survived him many years. It is probable that his time of residence in Gloucester and Watertown was of short duration. Perhaps he removed to Boston just before the death of his first wife, and remained there until his own death.

He left a will which was proven September 27, 1670. It is to be found in Suffolk County Records of Probate, Boston, Book VII, page 87. Suffolk Co., then included part of Boston. The following is a verbatim copy:

"The last will and testament of Henry Felch:

Being in good understanding and memory I do commend my soule to God my Savi'r & my body to a decent buriall and ye estate I have left I bestow as followeth:

Imp'rs,—All my household goods that is fitt for a woman to use, and ye provision I have left, I give to my wife.

2dly,—I give all my grand-children one shilling apeice.

3dly,—I give to my Son Henry Ffelch and ——— Samuel Dunton each of them a remn't of serge & a young horse & a Mare betwixt ym if I live not to spend theise things.

4ly,—I give to my wife and to my son Henry Ffelch all my debts in bills & bondes & booke equally divided, whom I make my Executors of this my last will & Testam't.

5ly,—I give to my wife twenty shillings that Thomas Wiburn oweth me and five pounds Jno. Wiburn doe owe me to be paid twenty shillings a year to help pay his rent if he lives five years or if she dye before ye five years bee expired I give to Jno Wiburn in whose hand it is.

In ye presence of Nathaniell Bishopp,
Jno. Wiburn.

The mark of [x] Henry Ffelch.

"Nathaniel Bishop and Jno. Wiburn made oath before Richard Bellingham Esq. Gov'r & Maior Gen: Jno. Leverett this 27th 7br 1670 that they were pr'sent att ye signing & publishing

this will of Hen: Felch to be his last will & testam't, and yt he was then of a disposing mind as attest.

ffre GRACE BENDAL, Clark.

"A True Inventory of ye Estate of Henry Ffelch lately deceased in Boston taken and prised this Eighteenth of August, 1670, by Nathaniel Bishop and Edward Drinker,—

Sum total £101, 1s, 6d.

"Elizabeth Ffelch, widow, made oath to the truth of this Inventory, 27, 7, 1670."

In Suffolk Co., Deeds there are no real-estate transactions in his name, and only the following in his wife's name, (Book 17, page 102,) where "Elizabeth Felch widow, gives to her son-in-law, John Wiburn, mariner, the £40, balance due on the mortgage of a house, dated May 10, 1682."

From these facts we gather the deductions that our emigrant ancestor died about August 1670, his widow surviving him about twelve years; that he has been frequently confounded with his son, Henry Felch Junior, of Reading; and that he was doubtless influential and enterprising in those early times.

Chapter II. Henry Felch, of Reading.

"So, beyond the river of Time walk the brave men and beautiful women of our ancestry, grouped in twilight upon the shore. Distance smooths away defects and, with a gentle darkness, rounds every form into grace. It steals the harshness from their speech, and every word becomes a song. Far across the gulf that ever widens, they look upon us with eyes whose glance is tender, which light us to success. We acknowledge our inheritance; we accept our birthright; we own that their careers have pledged us to noble action." George Wm. Curtis.

Henry Felch Junior was, probably, born in Wales, about the year 1610, and undoubtedly emigrated to this country with his father, about 1640. The earliest account of him tells of his residence in Reading in 1647, but he was probably there earlier. Mr. Savage and many others confound the father and son, but there is no evidence, recorded or transmitted to indicate that the father ever lived in Reading, or the son in Gloucester or Boston; we are almost positive that Henry Junior lived in Reading from the birth of his eldest child in 1650 to his own death in 1699; there is one fact that seems to contradict this opinion: the fact that the names and dates of birth of the first five children of Henry Junior appear both on the Boston and Reading records, excepting Joseph whose date of birth is on neither record; but this may be accounted for by the fact that Suffolk County once embraced Reading and contiguous towns.

Henry Junior married Hannah ——— probably in Wales or England; her decease according to Reading records,: "Hannah Felch widow, Dec., 15, 1717, 100 years nearly" consequently born 1617–18. Henry Junior was Selectman of Reading in 1647, '48, '51, and '81; he was generally called "Sargent," or Sergeant. The Reading town record contains the following: "A Record of Lots of Pine Swamps as laid out in their several Plats, which were drawn Feb., 8, 1692, for west side of the town. . . . . The first lot came out for Sargent Henry Feltch, . . . which was 6½ acres or thereabouts. Joseph Felch drew the 18th lot 1⅔ acres. John Felch drew the 38th lot 3 acres."

The Reading records state the decease of Henry Junior to have occurred Nov., 11, 1699. The Middlesex Probate Records at Cambridge contain the inventory of his estate, which was taken Dec., 13, 1699: amounting to £ 283 11 shillings. His son John was appointed administrator and "he made oath that the within written contains a true Inventory of ye estate of his father Henry Felch of Reading, husbandman."

"An estate to be divided between the widow and 7 children:

John, eldest sonne, ¼	Lands,	£ 28, 6, 8.	Chattels,	£ 19, 13, 4.
Joseph, ⅛	,,	14, 3, 4,	,,	9, 16, 8,.
Wm. Green of Woburn ⅛	,,	,,	,,	,,
Thomas Cutler, ⅛	,,	,,	,,	,,
Daniel, ⅛	,,	,,	,,	,,
Hannah, ⅛	,,	,,	,,	,,
Ruth, ⅛	,,	,,	,,	,,
Total		£ 113 6 s 8 d.		£ 78 13 s 4d.

The Wm. Green of Woburn, and the Thomas Cutler above mentioned. married the second and fourth danghters of Henry Junior, as will be seen below. Henry Jun: left at his decease, three sons, John, Joseph and Daniel, the progenitors of the three main branches of the family; there is a tradition current about three brothers having come from Wales, but we think it arose from the inability to trace farther back than the three grandsons of our emigrant ancestor. We shall treat of the branches distinct and separately.

It is customary in family histories to give each descendant a number, for ready reference; we shall adopt the same plan: accordingly Henry Senior will be number 1, Henry Junior will be 2, the three daughters of Henry Sen: will be 3, 4, and 5, and so on to the end of the record, excepting only those who are not Felchs by birth who will not be numbered.

John Felch was appointed administrator of his father, —the widow refusing the appointment on account of age and weakness.

Ten children, all born in Reading:

6 Hannah born Feb 26 1650, died April 23 1668.

7 Mary born July 31 1653, married Wm. Green.

8 Elizabeth born July 15 1655, died Oct 18 1657 aged 2.

9 Samuel born June 3 1657, died Oct 22 1661 aged 4.

10 John born Feb 26 1660, died April 9 1746 aged 89.
m'd May 25 1685, to Elizabeth ~~Going~~ or Gowing.

11 Samuel born July 12 1662, died Jan 14 1683 aged 21.

12 Joseph born ——— died May 31 1727, m'd Mary ———

13 Elizabeth born Mar 9 1666 md Thos. Cutler Dec 30 1686.

14 Daniel born Jan 5 1668, died Oct 5 1752 aged 84.
md May 6 1702 to Deborah Dean of Charlestown.
She died Jan 7 1715 ; he md (2) Sarah and (3) Hepsibah.

15 Hannah born Sept 18 1672, md Sam'l Parker Ap 16 1700.

16 Ruth born June 1 1675.

Joseph's name is perhaps given in correct chronological order although he may have been next younger than Daniel.

We shall, however, consider them in the above order : John as the ancestor of the oldest branch ; Joseph, of the second, that soon became extinct : and Daniel (Doctor Daniel Falch of Seabrook N. H.,) ancestor of the youngest branch.

In regard to the Hayward, Dunton, Wiburn, Green, Going, Cutler, Dean, and Parker families, consult the Addenda at the end of the volume.

Chapter III. The Eldest Branch.

"My thoughts are with the dead; with them
I live in long past years,
Their virtues love, their faults condemn,
Partake their hopes and fears,
And from their lessons seek and find
Instruction with an humble mind." Southey.

When my attention was first given to genealogical research I can scarcely remember. I wrote a letter of inquiry in 1871, to my oldest living relative, the late Dr. Walton Felch, cousin to my grand-father,—he was then at the very venerable age of eighty-two years, and in writing me was compelled to use both hands to guide his pencil; from him I received the initial impetus to my laudable undertaking. On the reverse side of his letter, he had copied the inscription on the head-stone at the grave of John Felch,—at Weston Massachusetts —his grand-father's grand-father: the progenitor of the eldest branch we are now considering. The inscription reads:

Here lyes buried
ye body of
Mr. John Felch,
who departed
this life April
the 9th, Anno Domini,
1746 in the 89th
year of his age.

Here lyes buried
ye body of
Mrs. Elizabeth
Felch, wife of Mr.
John Felch, who
departed Apl 10,
1746 in the 86th
year of her age.

In connection with the above, he sent the following elegy, highly creditable for an octogenarian. He is the author of two long poems and a large number of short poems, which will be noticed at some length in the ensuing pages.

PATERNITY.

Upon an old grave stone inclined,
At Weston, when near age four-score,—
Questions and answers passed my mind
As here rehearsed, and many more—
"What is this man of dust to thee,—
One of the same surname,— or rather
What was he once to thine and thee?"
Grand-father of my father's father.

"If loved, or feared, by fellow-men
Why was no epitaph applied?"
He lived near four score years and ten,—
At seventeen-forty-six he died.
This pedigree and grave-stone show
What facts concerning him we gather;
And hardly more of him we know,—
Grand-father of my father's father.

The man of dust, below the sod,
Has now no purpose, right or wrong:
But souls below the throne of God,
Perhaps may listen to my song.
At leisure hours I think upon
Some bye-gone friend, or ancient father,—
Good Nathan, Sam, or Sam, or John,—
Grand-father of my father's father.

—Walton Felch.

In relation to the last verse of this elegiac poem on John Felch, it is well to explain that Nathan was the father, Sam-

uel Jun: the grand- father, and Samuel Sen: the great-grand father of Walton Felch, and John great-great-grand-father.

John Felch removed from Reading to Weston, but at what time can not be discovered; it is to be presumed shortly after the incorporation of Weston, 1709; so that he was one of the earliest settlers. He had 9 children, born in Reading:

17 Elizabeth born Feb 23 1686, died ———

18 John born Feb 17 1688; removed to Canterbury Conn.

19 Samuel born Feb 11 1690, died Nov 1725, md May 6 1714 Katharine dau. of Francis and Ruth Smith of Reading.

20 Hannah born Aug 3 1692, md Jan 4 1715 to Thos. Clapp.

21 Mary born Mar 17 1695

22 Daniel born June 3 1697, died July 15 1703 aged 6.

23 Nathaniel born April 27 1699, md Oct 29 1732 to Mary Hanks of Lynn: he is ancestor of the Maine branch.

24 Ebenezer born July 20 1701, md Mary Bacon of Needham May 15 1728: he is ancestor of the Natick branch.

25 Abigail born June 15 1703, or June 1st, presumably.

John (18) was administrator of his father's estate.

HIRAM E. FELCH, BOSTON.

On the opposite page is the portrait of Mr. Hiram E. Felch of Boston, son of Dr. Walton Felch. He is at present in the Real Estate business, and is one of the Assessors of Boston, elected last year by a fair vote, and re-elected this year, by the unanimous vote of the City Council and Board of Aldermen. "My earnest desire," he has said, "is to so spend my life that the world may be better that I have lived in it; to serve the cause of human suffering, and mental and spiritual elevation, rather than selfish and sensual gratification."

H. E. Falch
KILBURN - MALLORY SC.

Chapter IV. The Second Branch: Joseph Felch.

"The sentiment of ancestral pride is an integral part of human nature. Its organization in institutions is the real object of enmity to all sensible men, because it is a direct preference of derived to original power, implying a doubt that the world at every period is able to take care of itself. Curtis.

Joseph Felch, the second of the three surviving sons of Henry Junior, married Mary ———; she died May 29 1731.

They had seven children, all born in Reading:

26 Mary born Dec 8 1688, died Jan 24 1689.

27 Mary born Mar 13 1691, died Mar 19 1691.

28 Mary born Jan 2 1693, died June 22 1728, aged 35.

29 Joseph born Sep 1 1695, died April 23 1710, aged 14.

30 Samuel born Mar 6 1698, died Oct 16 1698, aged 7 mon.

31 Ebenezer born Sep 13 1699, md Lydia Chandler of Andover, Mass., May 17 1728. She died May 23 1731. He md (2) Margaret Toothaker of Billerica, Jan 28 1734.

32 Abigail born Aug 24 1702, md Ebenezer Cutler, Shrewsbury, April 27 1726. See Addenda for Cutler family.

As this branch became extinct, in the male line, in the next generation, presumably, we shall give the branch complete here.

Ebenezer and Lydia had one daughter born to them.

33 Lydia born June 15 1729, died ———

Ebenezer and Margaret had three children born in Reading.

34 Phebe born Nov 17 1734, died ———

35 Joseph born Oct 23 1736 md Margaret ———, no issue.

36 Mary born April 26 1739, md John Farmer of Tewksbury, Oct 6 1763. See Addenda for Farmer family.

It is supposed that with Joseph (35) the male members of this branch became extinct; administration of his estate granted his widow April 9 1759. He died shortly before this date. The Cutlers and Farmers descended fron this branch are numerous.

Chapter V. The Third Branch: Daniel Felch.

Hot, quick spirits, who tread firm to ends fore-shown,
And use the name of greatness unforgot,
To meditate what greatness may be done.
Mrs. Browning.

For the contents of this chapter we are indebted to a letter received, (April 1875,) from Mr. Oliver Eaton, East Salisbury (Mass.,) who is thoroughly acquainted with the history of the Seabrook branch, and to whom we are largely indebted for information received regarding this branch of the family.

"Daniel Felch, the common progenitor of the Felch family in New Hampshire, and northern Massachusetts, in Vermont, and western (?) Ohio,— settled in that part of Seabrook New Hampshire which was included within the jurisdiction of Hampton Falls [from 1721 to 1768] sometime prior to 1730.

"I find his name, with the prefix 'Doct:' enrolled on an inventory of the several polls and estates in Hampton Falls, taken in 1742, pursuant to an order of the General Assembly, against which his taxable estate, consisting of Real and Personal property, is specifically enumerated with poll or head valuation; at which period of time Mr. Felch was, without doubt, more than seventy years of age: hence the exemption therefrom.

"In the earliest mention we find made of him, he is styled 'Doct:' a title that was not bestowed on ordinary persons in his time. Tradition says that he was a native of Massachusetts, and that he had certain relatives then living in the vicinity of Boston, and that he had certain relatives of the same name living in some part of York county in the state of Maine. He married first Deborah Dean of Charlestown Mass., May 6, 1702. She died Jan., 7, 1715; he married (2) Sarah —— who died prior to 1730; he married (3) Hepsibah ——, who survived him, and died at the old homestead, where Samuel, her son, resided. Daniel Senior died intestate Oct., 5, 1752, at the advanced age of 84 years and 9 months. He came to us late in life, and when he passed off the stage, he left no account of himself, nor of his ancestry.

"Daniel and Deborah (Dean) Felch had one son:

37 Daniel born Mar 8 1703, died Sept 13 1713 aged 10.

Daniel and Sarah had two children:

38 Daniel born April 3 1718, md Jane Page Feb 14 1749.

39 Deborah born Jan 12 1720; died unmarried.

"In relation to Curtis, Joseph, Sarah, and Samuel, children of Daniel Senior, I nowhere find any record of the dates of their births, consequently I shall arrange their names with reference to age as I have heard them called, with a presumption that they were children of the third wife Hepsibah.

"On the 28th day of March, 1753 Joseph Felch and Daniel Felch were duly appointed administrators of the estate of their

father, Daniel Felch, late of Hampton Falls, deceased, intestate, and on the same day Samuel Smith was appointed guardian of the person and estate of Henry Felch, a son of said deceased, then a minor upwards of fourteen years of age,—born 1739-40.

We shall accordingly number the younger children of Daniel in the above order: Curtis (40) Joseph (41) Sarah (42) Samuel (43) and Henry (44.) Of these, Joseph is the ancestor of the Weare N. H., and Waterford Vt., branches; Curtis and Samuel of the Seabrook branch and Henry of the Piermont N. H., branch; all of which are widely scattered.

We have thus far completed three generations, and the fourth generation in the Second branch, completing that branch. In the Addenda will be found notices of the Clapp, Bacon, and many other families. The Hughes and Foulkes families, our progenitors in Wales, will be fully treated of, at the end of the work, when we have completed the history of our own family.

ISAAC K. FELCH, NATICK MASS.

On the opposite page is the portrait of Mr. Isaac K. Felch of whose life we have a lengthy sketch, which will appear in its proper position in the history of the Natick branch. We have not space to insert it here, entire, but his excellent and faithful portrait will speak for itself until then; the ensuing number will contain the history of the earliest generations in Natick, by Miss Sarah G. Felch, sister of the above Isaac K. Felch.

Fraternally Yours
J. K. Felch

Chapter VI. Felchville and its Founder.

"Every great life is an incentive to all other lives ; but when the heart, that beats for the world, loves us with the warmth of private affection, then the example of heroism is more persuasive because more personal. Curtis.

We present herewith the portrait of the late Mr. William Felch, the founder of Felchville, a village in Windsor County Vermont. We shall treat of his branch next, from material mainly furnished by him, hence this is the most appropriate position for the following sketch of his life and labors. It is taken from Dr. Gilbert A. Davis's History of Reading Vt.

"This village is in the south-east part of the town [Reading,] on a branch of the Black River. The advent of William Felch in 1826 seems to have given it the first impulse to growth and importance, and the village bears his name. Few men have spent a more active life, or pursued callings so varied in their characteristics.

"Born at Royalston Mass., Feb., 3, 1797, he came to Windsor, Vt., at the age of fourteen, where he remained four years, and with his father in Cavendish, working on a farm. A short sojourn in Ohio, in the winter of 1818, abated his western fever, and induced him to set his face toward the rising

sun; he migrated to New York city and there found employment in regulating streets and lots. Married, at Cavendish Vt., Oct., 28, 1821, to Bethiah Peck, he immediately moved to New York city and resided there four and one half years, engaged in paving streets, flagging sidewalks, and working a flagging-quarry at King's-bridge or Yonkers, kept a grocery and built three dwelling houses. He came to reside in Reading in the spring of 1826, and with O. P. Clark, built and filled the first store in Felchville, and in 1827 built and kept the first tavern and also built the first factory building there in 1835. In 1830, with H. Cutting, he carried the first mail from Woodstock Vt., through Felchville to Charlestown N. H. He has built in Felchville twelve dwelling houses; also built one dwelling house in Nebraska, where his youngest daughters now live.

"In 1832 and 1833 he represented the town of Reading in the State Legislature. He has acted as Justice of the Peace, about forty years; has been Selectman five years, lister twelve years, and held many other town offices. He has been Postmaster and country merchant three different times, carried on black-smithing, lime and potash making, and with others run the satinet factory in Felchville. He built and run a saw mill and farmed more or less.

"For the past forty years he has been one of the most enterprising men in the town. His name has been identified with almost every public act, and probably no one has exerted a

greater or better influence. His position may have been assailed at times, yet all have been willing to give him credit for strict integrity and honest motives. Few men have enjoyed the confidence of the public to a greater extent than William Felch.

"In October, 1871, he celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of his marriage by a golden wedding at his house, in which his neighbors, friends, and townsmen generally participated. Many beautiful presents were made, among them a fine gold headed cane, bearing this inscription:

WILLIAM FELCH, OCT., 28, 1871.

The presentation was made by Gilbert A. Davis, and most feelingly accepted by the recipient. It was an occasion that few live to celebrate, and it was enjoyed by all present."

The cane is shown in the portrait, and was highly valued by its owner. Felchville now numbers from eighty to one hundred dwelling houses, besides the usual variety of stores, shops, hotels also medical, clerical, and legal practitioners.

For the following facts in relation to the remaining years of his life, we are indebted to the kindness of Mr. Geo. M. Clark, of Felchville.

"He was engaged in the affairs of the town until his death, being one of the Selectmen of Reading in 1876, and a Justice of the Peace up to the time of his decease, which occurred Nov., 9 1876. He built a house in 1874, at the lower part of the village, and moved into it immediately after. His wife

died in August 1875. He was married again in July 1876 to Mrs. Sophronia Blanchard, who still resides in Felchville."

My own acquaintance with Esquire Felch was brief but exceedingly pleasant, although acquired entirely through correspondence. He was very enthusiastic concerning the family history, and my greatest regret is that he did not live to see the work completed; he spared neither time nor patience in his efforts to make the history of his branch complete; and his memory of dates and events was certainly remarkable. We shall have occasion to quote extensively from his correspondence in the future; and we shall always regard his memory as reverently as if he were of nearer kin-ship. He was always a just and upright man.

ERRATA.

As we were compelled to publish this number rather hastily in order to have it ready for delivery at the stipulated time, a few errors were discovered after the work came from the press.

Page 2 heading omitted; line 5, for Felch read FFELCH,

Page 9, line 2, for danghters read daughters..

Page 11, line 3, for cousin read brother.

Page 16, bottom line, for fron read from,

THE MEMORIAL HISTORY

OF THE

Felch Family

IN

AMERICA AND WALES.

The Earliest and Latest Records,—1641—1881.

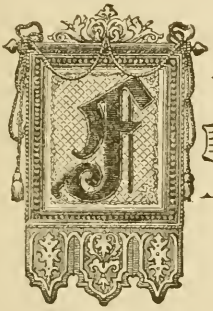
By W. Farrand Felch, Columbus, Ohio.

Press of J. F. Earhart & Co., Columbus, Ohio.
1881.

Rev. Isaac Newton Felch.

THE MEMORIAL HISTORY

OF THE



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PART SECOND. THE REVOLUTIONARY PERIOD.

"My native country, thou, which so brave spirits hast bred,
If there be virtues yet remaining in the earth,
Or any good of thine thou bred'st into my birth.
Accept it as thine own, whilst now I sing of thee,
Of all thy later brood, the unworthiest though I be."

DRAYTON: POLYOLBION.

"Love thou thy land with love far brought,
From out the storied past, and used
Within the present, but transfused
Through future time by power of thought." TENNYSON.

INTRODUCTORY.

In ushering in the period of the Revolution, in its bearing upon our family history, it is proper that we give it fitting introduction. We had supposed, until our researches taught us differently, that our family was only concerned or engaged in the late war; but there were a large number of Revolutionary heroes among our ancestors; we are descendants of a fighting race, as is shown by the Lion rampant in the family Coat of Arms, significant of a warlike people.

Whoever has had occasion to trace his lineage back to the first settlers of the country, has learned the very loose way in which family records are usually kept, and has been surprised to find how little intelligent men and women know of their ancestry. It is quite common to find persons who cannot tell the names of their grand-parents, and many who are intelligent thus far, can trace no farther back. Not one in a hundred, we are safe in saying, preserves even the names of his ancestors, beyond the third generation. It is a duty we owe to our children, and to our children's children, to put them in possession of the names and dates in our family history with which we are familiar, and which will soon be forgotten if not recorded.

A. Bronson Alcott, the venerable philosopher of Concord, in referring to the fact that "intercourse is had seldomer than of old, names of kindred hardly surviving save in the fresh recollections of childhood by the dwellers apart," adds the truth:

"A people can hardly have attained to nationality till it knows its ancestry and is not ashamed of its antecedents. If

such studies were once deemed beneath the dignity of an American, they are no longer. We are not the less national for honoring our fore-fathers. Blood is a history. Blood is a destiny. How persistent it is let the institutions of England, Old and New, bear testimony." He concludes by saying: "'Tis due to every name that some one or more inheriting it should search out its traits and titles, as these descend along the stream of generations and re-appear in individuals.

Let that pleasant task be mine. It is always interesting to know where our ancestors lived, and what their occupations were, and it is desirable that a man should preserve in permanent form not only his own family records, but that of his paternal ancestors as far back as he can trace them.

There are those who question of what use is a family record. It may be of no pecuniary value, whatever; it will add nothing to the fertility of your fields, and make no better sales for your merchandise; it will not consume any of your substance, nor add anything to it. Pedigree may count for much less pecuniarily in a man than in a horse. And yet, even in this democratic country, and in this utilitarian age, it is worth a man's while, as a matter of intelligence, to know something of his own origin, something of the homes, occupations, and characteristics of his ancestors. The knowledge would do him no harm, and it certainly would throw some light upon the tastes and peculiarities that he sees cropping out in his children, and help him to better methods of training.

Human beings are composed not of reason only, but of imagination and sentiment, also: and that is neither wasted nor misplaced which is appropriated to the purpose of giving right direction to the sentiments, and opening proper springs of feeling in the heart.

PART SECOND: The Revolutionary Period.

Chapter VII. The Eldest Branch. Fifth Generation.

"They would not have tried to accomplish deeds that would belong to posterity, if they had not seen that posterity would belong to them." Cicero.

[Lineage: Henry,[1] Henry,[2] John,[3]]

The eldest branch of the family remained in Reading many years, during several generations. Dr. Daniel Felch or Falch remained in Reading until late in life before removing to Seabrook, as has been already shown. Of the children of his brother John, the progenitor of the eldest branch, we find that John Junior (18) removed to Canterbury Ct., and was living there at the time of the death of his father who appointed him administrator.

Samuel, (19) the second son, removed to Cambridge; he had two children born in Reading, and Samuel, his son, was born at Cambridge.

46 Catharine born Feb 7 1716, in Reading.

47 Jemima born Jan 21 1718 in Reading.

48 Samuel born 1722 or 1723; md Eunice Walton Nov., 24, 1743 at Reading.

Samuel Sen. died at Cambridge, 1725. Administration granted his widow Nov. 22 1725. Guardianship of his son, Samuel Jun: then in his 18th year, granted to Benj. Smith, April 2, 1739. He died at Royalston, 1805, aged over 80.

Nathaniel Felch, (23) fourth son of John Felch, md Mary Hanks. Seven children were born to them in Weston:

49 Nathaniel born July 23 1733, died Aug 23 1733.

50 Nathaniel born April 23 1735: md April 2 1761, to Molly Hammond, daughter of Jonathan and Judith (Stearnes) Hammond of Waltham; she was born Sept. 5 1739.

51 Mary born Feb 9 1737, died Mar 31 1798, unmd, aged 61.

52 Elizabeth born Dec 31 1739, died Mar 8 1825, aged 85.

53 Eunice born Sept 19 1741, died September 25, aged 6 d.

54 Abijah born Sept 30 1744, died Sept 9 1814, aged 69; he md April 16 1769, Lydia Clarke, daughter of Captain Jonathan and Lydia (Cutting) Clarke of Newton.

55 Eunice born Aug 21 1746, died Aug 26 1746, aged 1 week.

Of the above, Nathaniel (50) had a son born at Reading, (Jonathan) April 2 1762, exactly one year after his marriage, and he soon afterwards removed to Maine, where all trace is lost of his descendants: a tradition says that he settled in the center of Maine where his stalwart descendants still reside, "all six-footers." Mary and Elizabeth died, unmarried, at Limerick, York County, Maine. Abijah removed to Ipswich, and to Newton Mass., and then to Limerick. Several of his children, if not all, were born at Ipswich, Massachusetts.

His wife, Lydia, was born Feb., 24 1746, died Jan 10 1837. Mary (Hanks) Felch, wife of Nathaniel Sen: died Nov., 18, 1747; he married (2) Elizabeth Fuller, Jan 31, 1750; she died May 31 1761.

Ebenezer (24) fifth and youngest son of John married Mary Bacon of Needham, May 15 1728; four children b. in Natick.

56 John born 1729, died at the battle of White Plains, 1776.

57 Stephen born Sept 10 1731, md and left five daughters.

58 Daniel born Dec 8 1734, md April 9 1763 Annie Bent.

59 Mary born Feb 9 1739, died Aug 26 1813, unmarried.

Of the above, John had six children born in Natick: his descendants will be treated at full length by Miss S. G. Felch. Stephen's grand-daughters married Felchs, as will be shown in the following chapters. Daniel married Annie Bent of Sudbury, but no descendants have been discovered.

From information just received from the Town Clerk at Canterbury Conn., we glean the following account of the children of John Junior (18,) from which it would appear that he was twice married, and eight children were born to him, four by each wife. He married (1) Elizabeth Johnson, Oct., 18th 1714; she died July 14, 1735. Their children were:

60 Hepsibah born Feb 20 1716, date of death unknown.

61 William born Sept 10 1718, died Mar 21 1752, aged 33.

62 Elizabeth born April 20 1721, died June 22 1721.

63 Mary born Sept 8 1722, date of death unknown.

John Jun: md (2) Sarah Green Mar 7 1737.

64 John born Oct 5 1739; md Sarah Adams Oct 29 1761.

65 Samuel born May 24 1743; md Mary Backus Aug 25 1765.

66 Sarah born Nov 19 1745; died Feb 2 1749.

67 Ebenezer born Mar 19 1754; died Oct 7 175–(4?)

John Felch (18) died April 22 1754, aged 66; there is the record also of the death of Sarah Felch, widow, April 17 1776 but it may have been Sarah [Adams] the widow of John, (64.)

Chapter VIII. Additional Data. 1648——1675.

From "The History of Reading, Mass." By the late Hon. Lilley Eaton.

Since the last chapter was printed, we have received from Mr. Chester W. Eaton, of Wakefield Mass., a copy of the new History of Reading Massachusetts, compiled by the late Hon. Lilley Eaton. From it we gather the following valuable data:

1648.— "First election of surveyors of highways, chose John Poole, William Martin, Henry Felch, and John Pearson.

1652.— This year the town ordered,—

"That the lottes that was to be laid out to be on Woburn line, is to be laid out on the Playne," etc.

Under this order the lots were drawn as follows: —

Henry Felch drew 10 acres; Samuel Dunton, 10 acres; Francis Smith, 20 acres, and others.

1653, September 10.— Henry Felch, being convicted of 'departing the publique assembly when the ordinance of baptism was about to be administered, was admonished by the Court of his sin, and ordered to pay costs to Jonas Eaton, two shillings."

1658–9.— "Names of the inhabitants of Redding, with the several plots of Upland, that were given to every man, as it fell to them by lott, on the north side of Ipswich river, with the no. of akers, viz.

Henry Felch . . . . . [illegible.]

1666.— "Names of the inhabitants that drew land in the 'Division of the Great Swamp,' with their minister rates in the preceding year: —

Henry Felch, £1, 6s. 9d. [among others.]

1667.— There were at this time, already erected, fifty-nine houses, owned as follows: —

Samuel Dunton, Henry Felch, Joseph Felch, [and others.]

The above extracts afford an idea of the standing of our ancestor, Henry Felch Junior, pecuniarily and otherwise, which is exceedingly valuable and important.

Chapter. IX. The Third Branch, Fifth Generation.

"Far as the breeze can bear, the billows foam,
Survey our empire, and behold our home."
Byron: The Corsair.

[Lineage: Henry,[1] Henry,[2] Daniel,[3]]

The Seabrook branch is a race of sea-farers. We have already noted in Chapter V., all facts concerning Dr. Daniel Falch or Felch of Seabrook, we had at that time; but since then we have received from Mr. Oliver Eaton full data of that branch to the present day, which will be presented, as much as possible in his own words, with slight additions from other sources. In regard to Daniel Junior (38) Mr. Eaton gives as his date of birth April 5, 1718, instead of April 3, and adds:

"I find his name, for the first time, on the Muster Roll of Hampton Falls, of men under Captain Edward Williams, in 1745, who were probably attached to the expedition under General Pepperell, at the capture of Louisburg, Cape Breton Island, June 17, 1745."

"He sold and conveyed his homestead land situated within Hampton Falls, containing about one-half of an acre, with the dwelling house thereon, to Jonathan Moulton of Hampton, by deed dated October 17, 1756, and recorded in Province Rec-

ords Vol. 51, page 337: an eligible situation, subsequently owned and occupied by Goshen Griffith as a Tavern stand, now in a good state of preservation! At this period of time, the estate of his father had undoubtedly been settled, and a division of the real-estate among the heirs-at-law, completed.

"He succeeded his father in the occupancy and ownership of a certain tract of land, on which he subsequently lived, and where he died. He married Jane Page of Hampton, Feb. 14, 1749; she died June 20, 1787: seven children born to them:

68 Molly, born Jan. 22, 1750, died Feb. 24, 1803, aged 53.
md (1) William Cilley, about 1769; he died at sea, 1772.
md (2) David Boyd, Dec 13 1774; he died July 23 1834.

69 Benjamin born Oct 3 1751, died in infancy.

70 Benjamin born Mar 28 1754, died prob. at Topsham Vt.

71 Rhoda born June 21 1756, died May 26 1785, aged 31.
md about 1775 to Joseph Hook of Seabrook.

72 Daniel born June 18 1759, died July 12 1763 (?)

73 Amos born Oct 13 1761, died Feb 9 1780, aged 18, in the British Prison, New York city.

74 John born Feb 23 1763, md Mar 8 1787, Ruth Switcher. She was born Jan 22 1763.

Of the above, Mr. Eaton writes: "Molly lived and died in occupancy of the homestead farm, which was of her father, now in the possession of certain of her descendants. Benjamin removed to Topsham, Vermont, was married there, and left many descendants. Rhoda lived and died in Seabrook;

her daughter Molly married the Rev. Moses Bean of Candia N. H., where he preached from 1815 to 1835, and where also he was Selectman and Representative several years. Elder Bean's widow lived in N. Y. city, as lately as 1852. Daniel was of Boscawen N. H. in 1782, says Mr. Eaton; if that is true he certainly did not die in 1763. John removed to Sutton, and left many descendants.

Concerning Deborah Felch (39) Mr. Eaton says that she was married to Abner Harris, removed to Ipswich Mass. and died prior to her father, Dr. Daniel; she left three children, Abner, Deborah, and John. He further adds, quaintly:

"I have known those who were habitually inclined to tell little anecdotes in relation to the sayings and doings of individuals, not only of their day and generation, but of the days and generations of their fathers,— anecdotes that were not unfrequently suggestive of the social condition of the person they were intended to characterise,— among whom there was one Deborah Felch, more commonly called 'aunt Deborah;' and there was also one Rachael Felch, who was frequently mentioned as of the next generation."

Regarding the remaining children of Dr. Daniel, we learn from Mr. Eaton, that Curtis settled at Fitzwilliam N. H. Joseph, born about 1725, married about 1756 Mary Hoit or Hoyt, signed the Association Test of 1776, and soon after removed to Weare N. H. Mary Hoyt was born Jan. 6 1739. Sarah born about 1727, died Jan. 13 1808, aged about 81, unmarried and

intestate, on the old homestead with her brother Samuel. Samuel, born about 1729. died June 3 1811 ; he married Jan 1 1755 Jemima Cilley, who died June 5 1817. Samuel was a farmer and fisherman ; he lived and died on the old homestead which he divided into five equal parts, and conveyed in severalty to his five sons by deeds dated Nov 29 1808 : he died June 3 1811. Hannah, youngest daughter of Dr. Daniel Felch, was omitted in Chapter V. but as she comes next in order we shall place the number 44 opposite her name, and 45 opposite Henry's instead of 44 as in Chapter V. Hannah was born Oct 24, 1731, died May 14 1746. Henry was born July 20 1735, died June 27th 1807. The particulars of his life will be found in next chapter.

Chapter X. The Third Branch, Fifth Generation.

"Come little fishes, bite at my hooks,
And help me out in the merchant's books."

"Henry was a farmer and fisherman," continues Mr. Eaton; "he settled on Felch's Point, so called, where he committed suicide by hanging himself. He was a soldier in the war of the Revolution, drafted September 20, 1776, to serve in the state of New York." Here Mr. Eaton adds a quaint remark: "I would like to know if he carried his cane and Quaker gun?" The cane mentioned is probably the one now in the possession of Mr. Carlton Felch, of St. Johnsbury Vermont, reputed to have been brought from Wales by Henry Senior, — a precious relic: the oldest heir-loom in the family.

This Henry married twice, the second wife being Deborah Palmer, of Kensington. An old lady in Seabrook, one of the oldest inhabitants, an oracle of wisdom, remembers the facts, given below, concerning Henry, which were transmitted to me.

"They were Quakers. Henry was a fisherman in Winter, and a farmer in Summer; he was a lame man, and although a Quaker, seemed to be a singer and a poet; one little couplet of his improvising ran thus,—

'Come little fishes, bite at my hooks,
And help me out in the merchant's books.'

This he sang while fishing, and his song usually brought him good luck. He became lame by an accident, when quite along in years; this, combined with other circumstances, made his life a burden, and he hung himself, 1807, being then 72 years old. The Quakers would not permit him to be buried in their burial-ground, as he was a suicide. He left one son, certain.

75 Parker, who married Hannah Bragg, a Quakeress, and settled at Tamworth, New Hampshire.

The old lady could also remember "Skipper Daniel," who according to her account was a wonderfully popular man, and a sort of Triton; she said: "he was a beauty in form and face, and no man around could blow such a powerful blast on the trumpet."

"The Atlantic washed at their doors, and all had more or less to do with sea-faring. The sea was their element;" she said. "Why, when they were gunning on the water, and any of their game fell into it, somehow they would slip out of their clothes, and plunge in to swim for it; and they would often become so engrossed as to forget to dress for some time; they were called the Felch water-dogs: they were also famous hunters."

These incidents may seem trivial, but have their bearing upon the family character, and we have deemed this the most fitting place for their insertion. We shall hope to introduce other incidents as telling, to give spice and variety to the text.

One of the Seabrook branch was chosen tything man twice

and another was surveyor of highway in 1804. Here also, we find the tradition of the three emigrant Felch brothers, with this difference: "They came from England (?) and one was a doctor and went out into Massachusetts somewhere, the other two settled somewhere in the vicinity of Seabrook." This only serves to show how much the legend has been garbled, as it has only been transmitted orally. We shall rely upon the records in preference: we think this tradition arose within the past hundred years, from the inability to trace as far back as our emigrant ancestor. Tradition is apt to be an attergrowth, and depends largely upon surmise, with a jumble of facts so distorted that they can not be correctly placed.

The Seabrook records previous to 1755 have been destroyed, and only through the duplicate records of Mr. Oliver Eaton the indefatigable historian of Seabrook, have we been able to secure the complete record of this branch; he has kept the record intact, as well as that of many other families.

We are largely indebted to the perseverance and interest of Mrs. Elbridge S. Felch, Amesbury Mass., for information regarding this branch: she has neither spared exertions nor brooked obstacles in her enthusiasm.

Joseph Felch and Samuel Felch, sons of Dr. Daniel Felch, signed the Association Test, dated April 12 1776. Joseph was Parish Collector in 1776. He removed soon after to Weare. The history of his descendants has been compiled by Mr. John H. Felch, of Hancock N. H., and will appear in subsequent

chapters of this work: he is greatly interested in the work, and has been of inestimable assistance to the compiler.

Joseph Felch was born 1729, and died Feb 5 1803, aged 74. He married Mary Hoyt 1756; she died April 4 1804 aged 65.

Eight children were born to them in Seabrook:

76 Annie born September 1757.

77 Jabez born Feb 14 1759, died Aug 24 1830, aged 71. md Patience Johnson Feb 14 1785; she was born Oct. 8 1758, and died Jan 9 1844. They had five children.

78 Curtis born Jan 23 1761, died Jan 28 1849, aged 88. He md Sally Evans; she died Dec 30 1846, aged 77.

79 Molly born May 12 1764, died Feb 10 1803; she married James Brown, and had one son James, born Jan., 1794, whose descendants live near Buffalo, New York state.

80 Joseph born April 28 1765 or '66 died June 1846, aged 81. He md (1) Sarah Ayer 1788–9; she died Sept 25 1797. He md (2) Abigail Manchester July 1799: she died Sep. 18 1859, aged 85.

81 Jonathan born May 29 1768, died Jan 27 1852, aged 84. He md Abigail Favor; she was born April 2 1778, died Jan 1 1862 aged 84; they had six children.

82 Benjamin Hoyt born Nov 12 1775, (?) died April 10 1848 md Polly Thompson; she was born Dec 27 1779, died Dec 24 1837 aged nearly 58.

83 John born July 1773, md Olive Thompson Dec 22 1796.

There is a curious circumstance regarding the marriages

of Benjamin and John Felch which is worthy of special mention. They married sisters, Mary and Olive Thompson, the daughters of Samuel Thompson and Olive [Felch] Thompson. Olive Felch was one of the five daughters of Stephen Felch of Natick and Walpole Mass. Thus, it will be seen that Mary and Olive Thompson were of the seventh generation, while their husbands were of the fifth generation, only, beginning with our emigrant ancestor; this may partly be accounted for by the fact that the children of Dr. Daniel Felch of Seabrook, were the children of his old age, which would allow nearly the lapse of an entire generation, in point of time; again, Benjamin and John were the youngest sons of Joseph, and their wives were ten years younger than themselves, which would equal in point of time another generation.

Samuel, son of Dr. Daniel Felch, married Jemima Cilley, Jan. 1 1755. Nine children were born to them:

84 Nicholas born June 12 1755, died April 13 1840 aged 84. md Sarah Gove about 1779; she died Oct 20 1849. He was a farmer and also a soldier of the Revolution.

85 Jenny born June 1757, died Mar 11 1836 aged 78; md Jeremiah Brown; he died Feb 16 1846.

86 Samuel born Nov 18 1759, died July 17 1818, aged 59. He md Hannah Harris, widow, 1789; was a farmer and settled in Salisbury. He was found dead on the Essex Merrimack Turnpike, Salisbury; he died intestate.

87 Jemima born April 16 1762, died Nov 15 1816, aged 54.

She md Belcher Dole Oct 18 1793.

88 Hepsibah born Oct 6 (or 15?) 1765, died Nov 10 1840. She married Benjamin Joy; he died Mar 21 1830.

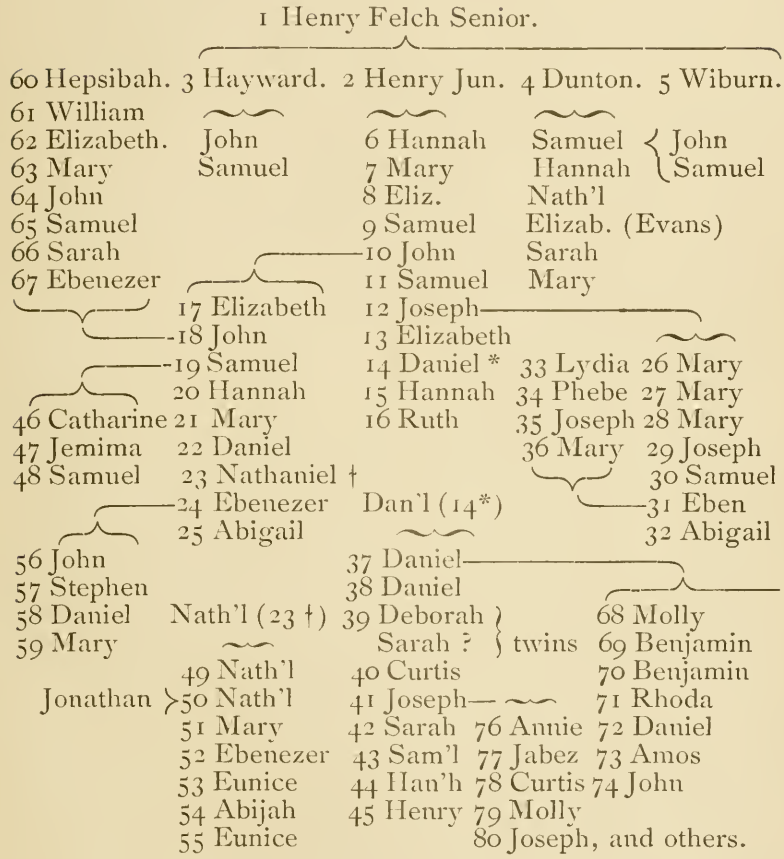
89 Phineas born Mar 7 1768, died April 1840 aged 88. He md Sarah Ward Mar 19 1795, a descendant of Thos. Ward an early settler of Hampton; she died 1864. Phineas was a farmer, settled in Kensington, and died in Danville.

90 Daniel born Oct 13 1771, died June 30 1839, aged 67. He md Jenny Eaton Mar 18 1793; she died June 6 1840. He was a farmer and shore-seaman in the schooner fishery. He died intestate.

91 Jacob born Feb 3 1777, died Jan 28 1856, aged 78. He md Hannah Harris Aug 5 1802. She was a daughter of the wife of his brother Samuel, by a former husband. He settled in Kensington and died in Newburyport.

92 Betsey born Dec 3 1781, died Nov 13 1856, aged 74. She md Thomas Chase, 1800; he died Aug 8 1833, in the harbor at White Haven, Nova Scotia. She lived and died at Seabrook.

CHART OF THE FIRST FIVE GENERATIONS.



Chapter XI. Additional Data. 1648——1765.

From "The History of Reading, Mass."

By the late Hon. Lilley Eaton.

"Hail usages of pristine mould,
And ye that guard them, mountains old."

"Henry Felch (Junior) settled first at Watertown, and removed to Reading in 1647. . . . We know not the original seat of the Felch family: but about 1765 a Samuel Felch was living on or near the spot where Adam Hawkes now lives.

On another page I find reference to the Felch homestead:

"A family of Felches formerly occupied this place. Samuel Felch was living here in 1760. Hannah Felch, widow of Henry, one of the first settlers, died on this place in 1717 aged 100 years nearly, who had lived in the town more than seventy years. Mrs. Mary Sweetser who was born 1710, and consequently was seven years old at Mother Felch's decease (living at the next door south, where A. N. Sweetser now is living) could well remember old Mother Felch. Mrs. Sweetser lived to be 96 years old, dying in 1806; and there are those now living who can remember Mrs. Sweetser: so that the memory of three persons stretches from the incorporation of the town to the present time," more than 240 years!

1686—"It appears that the town of Reading had purchased of the Indians the territory of Reading, some years prior to this date, for the sum of about ten pounds; but it had not been paid for. This year an assessment was laid to raise the money."

I find among other names "Henry Felch 2 s. 2 d. and John Felch 2 d."

1688—"A subscription for a new Meeting house was obtained, and the following is a list of the names and contributions of the subscribers." (among others) John Felch, 11 s. Sergt. Henry Felch £2, Joseph Felch (illegible.)

1690—"Paid Goodwif Lilley, for sweeping the Meeting house for the year 1690, three bushels of Indyun Corne."

1692—"Four women, belonging to Reading were arrested and examined for witchcraft, and imprisoned in Boston for it."

This year there was another general division of lands, on the Easterly and Westerly sides of the town. The list of the names of the Drawers is given, with their respective minister taxes, [among others,] Sergt. Henry Felch 10 s. Joseph Felch 7 s. 6 d. John Felch 11 s.

1693—"Town voted that there should be a Free School kept in the town. Town chose Tything-men for the first time.

1701—"School Meadow was let to John Felch and Tho. Bancroft for 14 s. in money per year.

1717—"Dr. Daniel Felch and others objected to the sale by the town of Range lands. Hannah Felch, widow of Henry one of the first settlers, died this year, aged 100 years nearly.

"The settlement of the territory now known as North Reading was probably commenced soon after the laying out of the 'two mile grant,' in 1666. From 1687 to '89 John Felch located on this territory.

1721—"A Catalogue of the brethren and sisters in full communion in the first church in Reading, hereunder followeth: Jan. 3 1720–1. [among others] Mary Felch.

1736—"Town voted that . . be a Committee to view the circumstances and accommodations of the highways in the town, and to bring in their thoughts and propositions, what may best be done about converting the Commons to some better use than what it is at present." [among others Ebenezer Felch dissented.]

1741—"This year Rev. George Whitefield preached on Reading Common.

1745—" This year an expedition was sent to Nova Scotia, and war with the French and Indians was renewed. Reading furnished its quota for this expedition, as well as for war that followed and that continued for 10 or 12 years.

Among the soldiers in the French and Indian wars of 1745 to 1760, I find the name of Joseph Felch (35) who died in the service. Daniel Felch Junior (38) was also in these wars.

1767—"About this time a Y. M. C. A. was formed, probably the first in the town." Among the names of the members I find Samuel Felch.

I do not find the name of Felch again until the Revolution.

In the "Roll of the three Companies of Militia in the town of Reading belonging to the Regiment commanded by Col. David Green of Reading, as they stood April 19, 1775," I find Samuel Felch and Nathan Felch standing side by side, in the First Parish Company. Nathan Felch was great-grand father of the compiler.

In the list of Soldiers of the Revolution from Reading, I find the names of Nathan Felch, John Felch, Parker Felch, and Samuel Felch. In the Addenda we shall treat of "Reading in the Revolution."

Regarding the homestead of Ebenezer Felch, (31) of the Second Branch, I find that: "Widow Felch lived on the place now owned and occupied by Phineas Green, on Main Street. This was Margaret Felch, maiden name Margaret Toothaker from Wilmington.

John Farmer succeeded his father-in-law on the place; he had a son John, born 1767 who died in the Revolutionary war. Farmer sold the place to Samuel Weston and went to Lunenburgh Mass.

In 1765 Reading had 1530 inhabitants, in 1776 it had 1984.

1772, May 7, Samuel Felch md Mary Richardson.

1777, April 1, Andrew Foster md Ruth Felch.

1779, Oct 10, Nathan Felch md Polly Cheever.

The above three are children of Samuel Felch Junior.

There were members of our family living in Reading as late as 1802, after a period of 155 years beginning with 1647.

Chapter XII. Rev. Isaac N. Felch.

"One in whom persuasion and belief
Had ripened into faith, and faith become
A passionate intention. Wordsworth.

The following appreciative obituary notice appeared in the columns of the New York Christian Advocate, from the pen of Rev. James M. Tuttle, on the decease of the late Rev. I. N. Felch, of Paterson New Jersey.

"Brother Felch was born in Norwalk, Conn., July 17, 1806 and died at Hackettstown, N. J., March 24, 1876, aged nearly seventy. He sought and obtained salvation at a camp-meeting at Barkhamstead, Conn., Sept. 14, 1826. Removing to New Jersey, he entered upon the work, teaching a school in Bellville, where in 1829 he was licensed as an exhorter, and in 1830 he received a license as a local preacher. Soon after, the presiding elder, Rev. Charles Pitman, sent him as a supply to Somerset Mission, as a colleague with Rev. Benjamin Collins. In 1831 he was received on trial in the Philadelphia Conference, and sent to Freehold Circuit; in 1832 to Rahway and Woodbridge; 1833 Woobdridge; 1834 New Providence; 1835–36 Haverstraw; 1837 Bloomfield; 1838–39 Elizabeth; 1840–41 Rahway; 1842 Northfield, Staten Island; 1843–44 Westfield; 1845 to 1848, Presiding Elder of Paterson District; 1849–50 Franklin Street, Newark; 1851 Camden; 1852–55

Presiding Elder of Burlington District; 1856–57 Cross Street, Paterson; 1858 Nyack, New York; at the close of this year his health so failed, he took a supernumerary relation. In 1869 he was appointed as a supply to Grace Church Paterson where he had located his family. He had much to do in founding this new and vigorous church.

Brother Felch was a member of Conference forty-five years labored as an effective man twenty-nine years, and during the sixteen years of his superannuate relation he was always ready to labor as his strength would permit. He often preached and never lost the spirit of his work. He was twice elected as a delegate to the General Conference. He was a member at Pittsburgh in 1848, and at Indianapolis in 1856. Brother Felch was a devout, earnest Christian, a good, practical preacher, never wearying his hearers with long sermons, wise in his administration of the Discipline, untiring and prompt in meeting his appointments, genial as a companion, kind and affectionate as a husband and father. He was a noble type of a faithful, earnest, Methodist preacher. He leaves behind the companion of his toils in the itinerant life, who fully sympathized with him in his work, and cheered him on in the hours of trial; also, a number of children, who will honor his memory and the Church he toiled to build up.

When the Newark Conference Collegiate Institute, at Hackettstown, was opened, he moved with his family from Paterson, that he might educate two orphan grand-children in

that institution. During his residence there, the influence of his piety, spirit, and example was felt in the community.

His death was sudden and unexpected to his friends, but it was in accordance with his wish. He had said to his dear wife "If it please God, I would prefer to die suddenly."

Previous to his death, during the day, though ill, he had been cheerful and happy in his intercourse with his family and friends. At the call to tea he wished all to go down, saying, "If I need you I will call." They had been absent but a few minutes when they heard the stroke of his cane on the floor. They hastened up stairs, but he was unconscious; the messenger had come and his pure spirit soon fled, leaving a sweet smile on his face. Thus, calmly and sweetly he passed away.

He had been a member of three conferences and had never been transferred; when the N. J. Conference was set off from the Philadelphia, he fell in it, and when this conference was divided he fell in the Newark Conference. In the history of his ministry he had witnessed great changes.

While residing in Paterson he entered upon a higher religious experience, and often afterward with evident pleasure referred to the blood that cleanseth from all unrighteousness, and regretted that he had not attained this blessed state earlier in his ministry."

Some additional data will be given in an ensuing number by his daugter, Mrs. Marcus James McKeon, Paterson N. J. and by others.

THE MEMORIAL HISTORY

OF THE

Felch Family

IN

AMERICA AND WALES.

The Earliest and Latest Records,—1641—1881.

By W. Farrand Felch, Columbus, Ohio.

Press of J. F. Earhart & Co., Columbus, Ohio.
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PART THIRD. THE SIXTH GENERATION.

From mossy mound, and grassy hillock gliding,
With noiseless step we come;
Wishful to learn of good or ill, betiding
The old remembered home; * * *
A band of brothers we, who sleep where weeping willows grow,
Your Great Grand-fathers, dead and gone, one hundred years ago.

INTRODUCTORY.

Hitherto we have treated of the first generations at random, consecutively, but not distinct. As our task grows apace, we find it necessary to treat each generation separately. This number will hence be devoted to the Sixth generation. We find it very much scattered,—— the pioneers of new settlements, and the progenitors of new branches and offshoots of the growing family-tree.

We are now approaching the region of fact and reminiscence, and leaving the realm of tradition; we shall hope to make the record more interesting from the rich store of recollections of living members of our wide-spread family.

In the majority of instances, our ancestors have been 'well to do,' sometimes wealthy, and always thrifty. If no great, historical honor or prestige attaches to their names, neither does any disgrace; our family can boast with others of coeval progress, that none of its members have found lodgment in the poor-house, or other asylum of refuge, in distress.

"They grieved, but no wail from their slumbers will come;
They enjoyed, but the tongue of their gladness is dumb."

We may well be proud of our Welsh extraction, although our connection with our "mother-country" ceased over two hundred and forty years since; for we know that the excellent traits of the Welsh people are perpetuated in our family to the present day,—industry, economy, sobriety, perseverance, and independence, as well as other good qualities.

With viewless hand, and soundless tongue, we greet you
Across the gulf of years;
Old memories thrill our pulses as we meet you,
And melt our eyes to tears;
A band of brothers we, who sleep where weeping willows
grow,
Your Great Grand-fathers dead and gone one hundred
years ago.

PART THIRD: The Sixth Generation.

Chapter XIII. The Canterbury and Reading Branches.

"Propped by ancestry whose grace
Chalks successors the way."

The Canterbury Conn. branch, as shown in Chapter VII., is descended from John Felch Junior (18) eldest son of John Senior, son of Henry Junior. In the last number, by an oversight, we omitted mention of Elizabeth, eldest daughter of the Canterbury branch progenitor (18) by his second wife Sarah. [Green.] Her number should have been 64, but as that number is taken, we place opposite her name:

93 Elizabeth, born Jan. 17 1738, date of death unknown.

It must be remembered that she is of the fifth generation.

John Felch Junior, (18) had no descendants by William, only son of his first wife. Of the children of his second wife, John (64) who married Sarah Adams Oct. 29 1761, had:

94 William, born Sept 16 1762.

95 Lydia, born Sept 1 1764.

96 Mary, born Feb 10 1767.

97 John, born July 24 1770, married Eunice Baldwin April 12 1796 at Canterbury Green.

Samuel Felch, (65) son of John Jun. (18,) married Mary Backus Aug 25 1765; their children were:

98 Samuel born Sept 9 1766, md Electa Durkee Nov 10 1793.

99 Sarah born Jan 17 1769, died Aug 19 1770.

THE READING BRANCH.

Samuel Felch (18,) son of John of Reading, removed to Cambridge Mass., where he died; here his son, Samuel Jun. (48) was born, but removed to Reading, thence to Wakefield and finally to Royalston Mass., where he died, in the Spring of the year 1805. His death, resulting from a fall from his horse a slight distance from his house, was almost instantaneous; he was over eighty years of age; the late Esquire Wm. Felch, founder of Felchville Vt., remembered the circumstances of his grand-father's death vividly, although quite young at the time himself. Samuel Junior had seven children; we presume the correct order of the family is as follows:

100 Samuel born Feb 22 1748, died Aug 30 1839 aged 91. md [1] Mary Richardson May 7 1772 in Reading; she died July 12 1812, aged 69. He md [2] a Mrs. Mary Farnsworth, of Harvard Mass. He md [3] Elizabeth Walton, about 1824; he was aged 76, and she was 70.

101 Mary born ———, md Jan 19 1773, Timothy Emerson, of Ashby Mass. and removed to Ohio, says a tradition.

102 Ruth, born 1753, died June 5 1835 aged 82. She md [1] Andrew Foster. They had two daughters born to them. She md [2] Nathaniel Burbank, of Lancaster Mass.

103 Caleb born 1755, died Dec 1822 or '23 at Cavendish Vt., aged 67. He md [1] Mary Chase Sept 16 1788 in Royalston: she was born at Sutton Mass. Feb 23 1764, and died at Royalston Oct 9 or 19 1798: seven children. He md [2] Edy or Edith Morse Aug 6 1800: four ch.

104 Nathan born April 25 1757 or '58 at Wakefield Mass. and died Sept 3 1839 aged 81, at South Reading Vermont. He md [1] Mary Cheever Oct 10 1779. She was born Sept 1 1760, and died Sept 20 1806 at S. Reading Vt. He md [2] Sarah Wilkins of Reading Vt. Jan. 10 1808. She died May 1859: they had four children.

105 ———, a daughter, name unknown, who md a Sheldon.

106 Catharine born Sept (9 or 19?) 1765, died Aug 25 1861, at North Springfield Vt. aged 95. She md [1] at the age of 50, Deacon David Heywood of Weathersfield Vt. April 13 1815: he died Nov 2 1824 aged 69. She md [2] Nathaniel Bixby of Dummerston Dec 25 1831; he died in the winter of 1840, and she survived him 21 years.

We must apologize for some double dates in the above, but as we have received the information from two equally credible sources, Mr. Wm. Felch, the son of Caleb, and Miss Rosetta, the daughter of Nathan, we give both as authority. The family was remarkable for second marriages, as shown above.

We shall depend largely, in future, upon extracts from personal correspondence received; we shall quote freely, omitting no details, no matter how trivial they may sometimes seem.

We prefer to treat of the latest generations in this wise, so we shall not be accused of partiality, nor of suppressing any fact or truth. In other words, we shall publish all intrinsic facts furnished, without reserve, and without courting undue responsibility, in our simple function as editor or compiler of the book.

Of the above-mentioned, Samuel Felch had seven children by his first wife, Mary Richardson. His descendants are as numerous, thrifty, and prosperous as any other branch, and will be treated of, at full length in future numbers. We have discovered no additional facts regarding Samuel or Mary

Concerning Ruth Felch we have received a very succinct account from her grand-children, Mr. Calvin Wright Burbank of Lancaster Mass., and Mrs. George V. Ball of Northboro, Mass. Mr. Burbank transmits the following items:

"Grand-mother was Ruth Felch, afterward Ruth Foster, a widow, with two daughters. Our Town History says, — 'Widow Foster who md. Nathaniel Burbank came from Reading about 1796.' At the cemetery here I find, 'Nathaniel Burbank died July 1818. Ruth Burbank, wife of Nathaniel, died June 5 1835, aged 82,' hence born 1753."

A full list of her descendants to the present day will be given in the Addenda, together with some interesting reminiscences, contributed by Mrs. George V. Ball.

Regarding Caleb Felch's descendants we have much ineresting data, in fact a complete account from his son the latet Mr. William Felch of Felchville.

Nathan Felch had eight children by his first wife and four

by his second wife; we have full data from his son the late Dr. Walton Felch, and from Miss Rosetta Felch, Charleston, N. H., his daughter, by his second wife. He was born at the town of Wakefield Mass. and died at South Reading Vt. near Felchville. Dr. Walton Felch wrote me in 1872:

"Felchville is a village and post-office in Reading Vt. and Wm. Felch, son of Caleb, built many of the houses there, but my father lived on a little farm in that village before any other Felch came. I left there at fifteen; I took my mother's dying farewell there at sixteen, and she and father are buried there."

Mr. Wm. Felch wrote me subsequently, regarding this:

"Uncle Nathan Felch did live on a farm some thirty rods from where I write this letter; and when I was a boy I visited at his house, but the house was gone before I came here to live. When cousin Walton was here in '45 he placed a plain slab at his father's and mother's grave, and engraved it himself."

It will be seen that the village of Felchville owes its incipiency and importance to the late Wm. Felch, its founder.

Miss Rosetta Felch remembers the last years of her father's life distinctly, and wrote us a very full account:

"My father, Nathan Senior, was born and brought up in Reading Mass. I can not give you the date of his removal to Reading Vermont. He was a joiner and carpenter, but never was able to work much at his trade, in my remembrance; he was also a good farmer, and a very ingenious man. Mother told me he was once a Free-will Baptist minister; but he was always an Universalist in my remembrance. He was, at times talkative, jocular, and fond of story-telling; at other times he would sit for hours in silent meditation; he spent much of his time, when unable to labor, studying the Bible, and comparing passages in different parts."

"He suffered much from ill health, from my earliest recollection, but retained his mental faculties in great degree to the close of his life. My father was in the Revolutionary war and also in the war of 1812; he had a pension, and mother drew the same after his death."

Mr. C. W. Burbank writes, under recent date:

"Nathan Felch, who was a strong Universalist, was here, (Lancaster) on a long visit to his sister Ruth; he once preached a sermon on universal salvation, at the school-house; he spent much of his time with the Whittemores who were Universalists.

Miss Rosetta Felch writes that Catharine Felch was of a very lively, social disposition. She died 1861, and was among the last of the sixth generation; Mrs. C. P. Smith, Plattsmouth Nebraska, daughter of the late William Felch, writes:

"I have a cup and saucer given me by aunt Catharine, at the age of ninety-five, requesting me to keep it as an heir-loom; she said it was over two hundred year's old and was my great grand-mother's, who said her brother ran a vessel to China, and brought them to her."

They probably belonged to Hannah Felch, the great grand mother of Catharine, and may have been brought from China by her brother-in-law, who was a mariner.

There have been no new facts developed concerning other members of this family. Their traits are not only representative but are common among their descendants to this day.

Chapter XIV. The Maine Branch.

"I see the scattered grave-stones gleaming white
Through the pale dusk of the impending night;
O'er all alike the impartial sunset throws
Its golden lilies mingled with the rose."

Longfellow.

As shown in Chapter VI., Nathaniel and Abijah Felch, brothers, removed from Mass. to Maine. Mrs. Levi Ricker, daughter of Abijah remembered that her uncle Nathaniel was buried at Shapleigh Maine. He had one son, certain:

107 Jonathan, born April 2 1762, at Weston Mass. and not at Reading, as given in Chapter VI.

There were other sons, according to Mrs. Ricker, but all trace has been lost. Hon. Alpheus Felch, Ann Arbor Mich. grandson of Abijah, remembers having seen, in his boy-hood, the sign of a tailor named Felch, at China, Maine. A Samuel Felch, residing at Portland, owned vessels on the Atlantic, and married a sister of General Knox of Revolutionary fame; we have a full account of his descendants to submit. We hope to have definite information to submit in next number. Amos Felch, grandson of Abijah, writes, "I have heard there are a number of twins of our name, down East. I have no doubt they are the descendants of Nathaniel."

Abijah Felch and Lydia Clarke were married on April 16 1769; she was born 1744, and died Jan 10 1837, aged 93, at Limerick, Maine. They had nine children born to them:

108 Abijah born Feb 14 1770, at Waltham Mass, died Feb 19 1836, aged 66; md Sally Pattison.

109 Daniel, born Sept 27 1771 at Ipswich Mass., died Octo 3 1806, aged 35: md Sarah Piper, daughter of Capt. Elisha Piper, of Parsonsfield Maine.

110 Amos born at Ipswich, Dec 3 1773, died June 25 1854, aged 80; he md Sarah Leavitt, daughter of Capt. Nath'l Leavitt, at Limerick.

111 Lydia born, Ipswich, Dec 29 1776, died June 13 1857 ag. 81, md Major Simon Fogg, April 4 1802.

112 Sarah born, Ipswich, Jan 22 1778, died Sept 3 1845 aged 67, married John Burbank, at Limerick, Jan 26 1806.

113 Eunice born, Ipswich, Dec 9 1780, died May 1 1805 aged 25, unmarried.

114 Isaac born at Limerick May 6 1782 died June 14 1841, aged 59, md Elizabeth Piper, daughter of Elisha Piper.

115 Susan born June 16 1785, died April 19 1806.

116 Hannah born April 7 1787, died Feb 21 1875 aged 88, md April 3 1807 to Levi Ricker at Limerick.

It would appear that he removed from Ipswich Mass. to Limerick Maine about 1782, having received a grant of land, probably for services rendered in the Revolutionary war.

The sons were all large, stalwart men. Amos Felch says,

"Abijah, Amos, Daniel, Isaac, — all of these large men, tall and straight, weighed about two hundred pounds each."

Abijah Junior was a blacksmith in the early part, and a farmer in the latter part of his life: he had seven children born at Limerick, and removed to Aroostook County Maine, with all his family, married and single. He left many descendants now widely scattered, of whom we have a full account.

Concerning Daniel, the Hon. Alpheus Felch writes:

"My father was Daniel Felch, son of Abijah. He died in Limerick Maine, leaving six children, myself the only son, and the youngest except one. I was only about two years old at the time of his death, and our mother died in a little more than a year afterward; we were immediately scattered among our relatives, and never again brought together as one family.

My father's occupation was that of merchant. His place of business was at Limerick, and he was the first person ever engaged in merchandizing within the space known as the Ossipee country, consisting of four or five towns lying between the Great and Little Ossipee rivers which flow into the Saco."

The family of Isaac, it is believed, is now extinct in the male line. Mrs. Fogg had nine children, and Mrs. Burbank had ten. This family is noted for longevity; the mother was 93 at her death, and three of her children over 80 years old. Mrs. Ricker was the last surviving member of the sixth generation, and we are largely indebted to her clear memory.

This branch was the first one investigated by the compiler and he is still conducting inquiries concerning it, owing to the fact few remain to tell the story, in the male line of descent. Besides those mentioned, we are indebted for information to Mr. Danford P. Felch, Mr. James Felch, Mr. Geo. W. Hunt, Mrs. H. K. Bither, with others.

Chapter XV. The Natick Branch.

By Miss Sarah G. Felch, Natick, Mass.

"Life's great play
May, so it have an actor great enough,
Be well performed upon a humble stage."
Westland Marston.

"Ebenezer Felch was born July 20, 1701, in Reading; he was married to Mary Bacon, of Needham, May 15 1728, and removed to Natick in 1723. At this time Natick was only an Indian town, and he was the fourth white settler; tradition says he came as assistant superintendent of the Indians who, then, as now, had not arrived at that state of civilization when they can be considered self-governing. In 1731-'2 he was employed as teacher in the public school; in June 1745, he was chosen as Town Clerk of Natick, which office he held for 15 years; he also filled other town offices. During the ministry of Rev. O. Peabody which commenced in 1741, he held the office of Deacon. His home was in the northern part of the town, and it still remains in possession of his descendants; here he reared his family, three sons and one daughter. He continued to hold town offices until 1757, but there is no record of his death, nor of his place of burial.

His eldest son John succeeded him in all the various town

offices,—selectman, assessor, school committee, and teacher in the public school. John married a lady bearing the same name as his mother's,—Mary Bacon, of Natick. The momentous year of 1776 arrived; Natick gathered her company to aid in the good cause. John Felch's oldest son, then about sixteen years old, was drafted, and the father went as his substitute in June 1776; he met his death October 28 1776, at the battle of White Plains, New York.

Stephen Felch, second son of Ebenezer, was born Sept. 10 1731; memories of the oldest inhabitant make him a man of peculiar characteristics, of mathematical bent of mind, fond of casting the horoscopes of his friends; all trace of him is lost after his removal to Walpole.

Daniel Felch, third son of Ebenezer, was born Dec 8 1734 and married Annie Bent of Sudbury April 9 1763. He went to Annapolis, Port Royal, in 1746 with the Natick men.

Mary, only daughter of Ebenezer ~~died Aug 6 1813, unmd.~~ ? Davis m. Bent

John Felch, son of Ebenezer, left six children:

117 Mary born June 4 1757, died July 12 1841 aged 84; she md Thomas Coolidge Sept 19 1776 and had 7 children.

118 John born Mar 28 1760, died Mar 6 1830 aged nearly 70, md Hannah Loker Nov 16 1788.

119 Ruth born Dec 9 1762, died June 23 1852 aged 89; she md James Eames Sept 9 1784.

120 Zeruiah born April 30 1765, died Mar 3 1850 aged 84, md Ethel Jennings May 18 1786: seven children.

121 Asa born July 9 1769, died Mar 21 1846 aged 77; he md Lavinia Newton at Wayland Massachusetts.

122 Levi born June 8 1773, died Sept 19 1861 aged 80; md. Patty Coggin April 16 1816.

Stephen Felch, son of Ebenezer, left five daughters:

123 Hannah born Feb 24 1755.

124 Olive born Nov 9 1756; md Samuel Thompson. Chap. X.

125 Abi born Oct 18 1760. 126 Polly born July 11 1766,

127 Rebecca born August 3 1771.

Molly Coolidge's descendants still reside in Natick; Ruth Eames removed to Dublin N. H., thence to Newry Maine. She had nine children. Zeruiah had seven children of whom only one is living, Mrs. M. Rice, of Grantville Mass.

Asa married Lavinia Newton about the year 1792 or '93 at Wayland Mass. They had five sons and three daughters; of these only one remains, (Isaac Felch, the writer's father.) Asa's homestead is still standing, and is now in the possession of Deacon Wright. Asa owned and worked the farm many years, and sold it to his son-in-law, the Rev. Isaac Jennison.

Levi married Patty Coggin, a widow; the fruit of this union was three daughters, two of whom live at Parkersburgh Iowa. Levi made Natick his home, for a number of years, but subsequently removed to Grafton Mass., where he died at the age of eighty."

ASA FELCH, SENIOR.

Chapter XVI. The Topsham Branch.

"There are homesteads which have witnessed deeds
That battle fields with all their bannered pomp,
Have little to compare with."

Owing to delay in sending information, a hiatus occurs in the record of the descendants of Daniel Felch Junior of Seabrook, as regards dates which will have to be supplied when full data arrives. We dislike to go to press without full facts.

Of the children of Daniel Junior of Seabrook, Benjamin, (70) is ancestor of the Topsham Vt. branch, and John, (74) is ancestor of the Sutton N. H. branch. Benjamin emigrated from Seabrook to Francestown N. H. where he and John are recorded as owning farms in 1790. Benj. removed to Topsham about 1804; he married Sarah Campbell, who died, 1854 at Racine Wisconsin, aged 94; they had eight children:

128 Daniel born at Deering N. H. Oct 27 1780, died Feb 26 1845; he married Ruth Walker.

129 Hezekiah. 130 William. 131 Enos. 132 Eli.

133 Benjamin born Feb 14 1790, md Jerusha Steele Jackson; she died 1864, and he died 1865.

134 Mehitable. 135 Jane. (?) This is as nearly correct as we can give, unless more information arrives, which is anxiously expected and desired.

Their mother, Sarah Campbell Felch, was a remarkable woman; she lived to the venerable age of ninety-four, and retained full possession of her faculties to the last, dying not by disease, but from old age; she could converse intelligently to the last, and had a wonderful memory. She was, during her active life very industrious and energetic.

Concerning the eldest son, Daniel, we are indebted to his son, Benj. F. Felch, Ayer Mass. for the following account:

"Daniel Felch was born in Deering N. H. The facilities for culture during the period of his child-hood and youth were poor, the school far away, the structure rude, and the teacher not always master of the rudiments he endeavored to teach; his literary acquirements consequently were small."

"He was six feet in height, very muscular, and possessing great physical ability. At the age of twenty-three he married Ruth Walker; by this union they were blessed with fourteen children, twelve of whom grew to the full stature of men and women, eleven of whom married and have children. His pecuniary circumstances were such as to induce him to labor early and late, in wielding the ax, tilling the soil, or making shoes, to supply the many needs of his large family, and by industry he acquired the frugal means of support. He was strongly imbued with a sense of his reliance upon God, and endeavored so to live as to finally receive the welcome plaudit, 'Well done, good and faithful servant.' He died while on a visit at his daughter's, in Groton Mass., Feb. 26 1845, in the 65th year of his age, and was buried at Mason Center N. H."

Concerning Benjamin, (133) we have a full account from his son Benj. F. Felch, attorney, Chicago Illinois:

"My father, Benjamin Felch, was a healthy, robust man, 5 feet 10 inches in height, weighed 180 to 200 pounds, and

measured 44 inches around the chest. He was remarkable for his strength, especially the grip of his hands; he would catch a wild steer by the top of the neck, with one hand, and hold on until he could get hold of the horns; I saw him once, when he was seventy years old, catch a shy horse by the mane and hold on until carried several rods, and the horse was glad to stop. He came from Topsham Vermont to Cataraugus Co., town of Yorkshire, New York, when twenty-one years of age. When he arrived, he had but one dollar in money and an ax as capital. He took a contract from the Holland Company for 160 acres of land which he afterward paid for; he cleared 100 acres of very heavy timber-land with his own hands; soon after commencing to clear his land he married Jerusha Steele Jackson, only daughter of Abraham Jackson. As the fruits of this union, twelve children were born to them, ten of whom lived to be men and women. He removed to Racine Wisconsin with his family about 1835, and settled about six miles south-west of Racine, where he bought quite a large tract of land; about 1856 he removed to Steven's Point, Portage Co., Wis. where he died, aged nearly seventy-five, and was buried at Amherst Wis., with his wife and son."

Hezekiah Felch lived and died on the old homestead at E. Topsham, and left ten children, all of whom married; he was a very energetic and industrious man. William removed to Fillmore County, Minnesota, where he died leaving two sons. Of the other children of Benj. we know nothing as yet.

THE SUTTON BRANCH.

The Sutton N. H. branch is descended from John Felch (74) who married Ruth Switcher [or Sweetser?] They settled in Francestown N. H., where they spent most of their married life. John Felch died in Sutton Dec. 27 1816, living then at

his son John's house. Ruth Switcher was born Jan 22 1763, and died Sept 5 1826, aged 63. Their children were:

136 Amos born at Francestown, July 1 1787, died at Newbury N. H. April 29 1876 aged 88, md Betsey Kelley; she was born Feb 10 1784 and died Oct 5 1868 aged 84.

137 William born Nov 23 1788, was in the war of 1812, and settled at Cleveland Ohio where he had descendants living until late years.

138 John born Aug 22 1790, died May 13 1877 aged 86, md Hannah Dodge Feb 22 1816: eleven children.

139 Daniel born Aug 8 1792, was in the war of 1812.

140 Benjamin born Aug 21 1794, died May 28 1877 aged 81; md Dolly Andrews: seven children.

141 Rhoda born May 12 1796, died 1868, md Elizur Watson.

142 Betsey born April 1 1798, died April 21 1798.

143 David born April 12 1799, died Dec 7 1814 aged 15.

144 Samuel Barnet, born Feb 24 1801, died June 4 1873 aged 72, in Illinois.

145 Mary Boyd, born June 24 1803, md N. Emerson; lives at Andover, N. H.

146 Susan Emerson, born Feb 10 1806, md Solomon Dodge; she lives with Mr. John F. Dodge, Bennington N. H.

William and Daniel received land warrants for services in the war, and went west; William was in Cleveland in 1817. Amos settled in Newbury, John in Sutton, and Benjamin in Wilmot, and left numerous descendants.

Chapter XVII. The Weare Branch.

By Mr. John H. Felch, Hancock, N. H.

"A man who educates one child faithfully may effect a work of greater benevolence than one who has won the name of a philanthropist."

Joseph Felch, (41) the founder of the Weare branch, was probably born in Seabrook about 1725. He purchased, Sept. 16 1779, of Stephen Rowel, the farm which has continued in the possession of his descendants to the present time, making four generations: (Joseph, Jonathan, Leonard, and Hiram,) and numbering over one hundred years.

Of the character of Joseph but little is known; his son Jonathan always spoke very respectfully of him, and his grandchildren remember him as a mild, kind-hearted, old gentleman. Of Joseph's seven children, Jabez the eldest, enlisted in the Revolutionary service at the age of sixteen, serving seven years, and suffering all the hardships and privations of those who fought for liberty. He finally settled in Weare, near his father, and in 1822 removed to Unity N. H. He left five ch.:

147 Mary born Nov 12 1785, died June 21 1815, aged 29.

148 Judith born Aug 10 1788, died Aug 8 1868 aged 80; md (1) Samuel White May 13 1841; md (2) Cyrus Field Nov 5 1856, surviving both husbands.

149 Hannah born Feb 29 1792, died Feb 11 1875 aged 82.

150 Patience born Jan 24 1795 died Oct 14 1871 aged 76, md John Marshall Mar 1816: seven children.

151 Rhoda born Sept 13 1802, md John Lufkin Oct 15 1829; they had two children,— one who died in infancy, and Mrs. Martha A. Nevers to whom the writer is indebted for this account of Jabez Felch's descendants.

Curtis, (78) second son of Joseph, settled in Weare, and left numerous descendants, most of whom settled in Weare and neighboring towns; he had ten children:

152 Lydia who md Daniel Straus, Manchester N. H.

153 Thomas born July 11 1797, died Oct 18 1853 aged 56, md [1] Mar 1 1821, Hannah Brown, md [2] March 1849 to Sally Stockwell.

154 Joseph born Feb 24 1799, died Aug 26 1876 aged 77, md Nancy B. Straus November 13 1821.

155 Mary born May 1893, married Isaac May.

156 Lewis born Sept 2 1801, died Mar 17 1872 aged 70, md Polly Edwards.

157 Harris born Feb 9 1805, md Eunice Willey, and [2] md Betsey P. Chase.

158 Leonard born Jan 8 1807 died Jan 27 1847 aged 40, md Sarah Straus.

159 Sarah md Abraham Melvin of Weare.

160 Emily born May 7 1810, died Aug 18 1872 md May 6 1836 to William H. Sawyer.

161 Lovina born April 26 1812, md Levi Howe Oct 7 1835.

Of this family, four of the five sons accumulated a goodly property, and all were reputable citizens. Thomas and Lewis were Captains in the Militia. They were all Democrats, and with one exception, Universalists; Thomas was a Methodist, in the latter part of his life. As near as we can ascertain Curtis had fifty grand-children.

Joseph Junior, (80) third son of Joseph of Weare, went to Waterford Vermont, and located on a farm ten miles back in the wilderness, to which he was guided only by marked trees; he became one of the wealthiest and most prominent men in that vicinity, holding the offices of Selectman, Overseer of the poor, Lister, Constable, Juror, Captain of Militia, and during his active life, Justice of the Peace. His Grand List, at one time, was one of the first in the town, as he was the unencumbered owner of 700 acres of real estate; in religion he was an Universalist; in politics, a Jeffersonian Democrat, and for all his public service he never received any pecuniary reward. The Waterford branch will be found in a subsequent chapter.

Jonathan, (81) the fourth son of Joseph of Weare, was a tanner, currier, and shoemaker, as well as an extensive farmer. He settled on the old homestead in Weare; he had a very high sense of honor in business affairs, and possessed strong filial affection, caring kindly for his aged parents.

The children of Jonathan Felch were as follows:

162 John born June 27 1794, died May 22 1858 at Bradford

N. H. md 1818 to Sally Clark of Hopkinton.

163 Betsey born April 10 1796 died May 30 1834 aged 38, md Joseph Goodwin of New Boston N. H.

164 Olive born Aug 19 1799, md Amos W. Bailey.

165 Leonard born May 21 1801, died in Hopkinton Feb 17, 1878 aged 76; md June 1830 Katharine Blodgett daughter of Elder Ebenezer Blodgett of Plymouth; she died April 4 1851 aged 40; he md [2] Sept 1851 Mrs. Sarah D. Palmer who is still living-

166 Nancy born July 31 1803 died Mar 23 1871 aged 72, md Hezekiah Blaisdell of Sutton N. H.

167 Abigail born April 17 1809, md May 17 1849 to President Felch of North Weare, her cousin, the son of Benjamin.

Mary (79) the daughter of Joseph of Weare, married Jas. Brown, and died young, leaving one son James; but little is known of her descendants who live in western N. Y. State.

John (83) the fifth son of Joseph of Weare, settled in Deering N. H., was a soldier in the war of 1812, had a good eduеation for a man of his times, taught school extensively, and seems to have possessed the best intellect in the family.

Benjamin, (82) the youngest son of Joseph, settled in Weare, and reared a large family; the ten children of John, and the eleven children of Benjamin will have to be treated of in a separate chapter. The six sons of Joseph were Universalists, Jeffersonian Democrats, and poseessed of respectable wealth for farmers in their day.

Chapter XVIII. The Tamworth Branch.

"The love concentrated on a family may produce greater results than that which embraces the world. Its action is more intense and invisible, but its results may go abroad and leaven the whole mass of a community."

We have just received from Mr. Oliver Eaton, Hampton Falls, N. H., the following account of Parker Felch, (75) the son of Henry, and the founder of the Tamworth branch:

"Tradition says that Henry Felch was twice married; that he married second Deborah Palmer who survived him; that Parker was the only child of Henry and by his first wife, but I nowhere find any record of the marriage or the death of the first or second wife of Henry, nor of the birth or the marriage of his son. Parker married Hannah Bragg, and soon after removed to Tamworth N. H. He sold certain real estate to John Janvrin in 1808, and afterward conveyed to the same by deed dated Feb 2 1810, his homestead land and buildings in Seabrook, which were of his father Henry Felch."

He died 1834 at Tamworth; he left eleven children; we give them in the order as transmitted by his grand-daughter, Mrs. Caroline Rodgers, North Sandwich N. H.:

168 Daniel born 1779 in Seabrook, died 1830 at Sandwich.

169 Parker [Edward?] 170 Phebe, md James Purington.

171 Henry who died in Canada at the age of 80, md Patience Blanchard, md [2] N. Fuller: ten children.

172 Rachael, (probably the one mentioned in Chapter IX.)

173 Sarah. 174 Robert born June 16 1793 died May 3 '68, aged nearly 70; md Betsey Sanborn: seven children; md [2] Catharine Sanborn: eleven children.

175 Anna. 176 Hannah.

177 Jedediah born June 9 1795 died May 12 1865 aged 70, md Oct 4 1821 to Mary Hill. 178 Lois.

We have not been able to learn the proper dates of above, other than those given above. We have a full account to date of Daniel's, Henry's, and Jedediah's descendants. This line or branch is, almost without exception of the Society of Friends.

We are unable to give all of the Sixth Generation in this number, as it numbers up to 250. The Seventh is larger and the Eighth still larger; the Ninth and Tenth Generations are much smaller in number, and range from infants to grown men and women; and still there are more to follow.

The Sixth Generation in the Eldest line became extinct by the death of Mrs. Ricker, [116] but many of the Third branch Sixth generation still survive; this is explained in Chapter VI. where the lapse of a generation is noted.

CHEERINGWORDS.

"Mr. W. F. Felch of this city is publishing a 'Memorial History of the Felch Family.' As the family is an extensive one the work will attain a large sale ; and, although not having a personal knowledge of the literary talent of the family we are confident that none among them are better fitted for the task than the one who has undertaken the research, and the subsequent memorializing of their vast numbers. —[The People's Journal, Columbus, Ohio.

"We have on our desk in pamphlet form the first number of this history. Felch is not a common Welsh name. As the name has undergone several permutations, —such as Ffelch, Ffalch, Falch, Felch Feltch, Foulches, Foulcks etc. it is not improbable that the original Welsh name was Ffalch or Falch according to the derivation or meaning of the name. He deserves to be heartily supported and encouraged by all who carry the name of Felch in the United States."—[The Cambrian, a Welsh magazine, pub. by Rev. D. I. Jones, Cincin'ti.

"I am very glad that you have undertaken the work, and wish you success in your labor of love. If I can be of any assistance to you in your work nothing would afford me more pleasure."—[Hon. Alpheus Felch, ex-Gov. of Michigan.

"I feel that you deserve for your patient and unremitting research both pecuniary reward and the united gratitude of the family." —[Edmund Felch, Everett, Virginia.

"Such a work must require an immense research and more perseverance and patience than every member of the family possesses." —[W. C. Felch, Sacramento, Cal.

"We consider your undertaking a laudable one. ; of course we want a Record." —[W. W. Felch, Felch Mt'n. Mich.

The above are but a few of the many kind words we are constantly receiving, which we shall publish from time to time.

They have prompted me to go on to the perfect end with my work and bring the record down to the present day. When I began publishing I did not expect to have to make another assessment, but I find it can not be completed in less than four extra parts, as information has doubled since then.

I have received only 135 subscriptions to date; there are to be that many pages in the first four parts, each costing $1; so I shall only meet expenses, and you have the book at cost. I have spent one-third of my time since last June in preparing and printing it, gratuitiously, often allowing it to interfere with my regular occupation; still I cannot now leave it incomplete as it would prove a life-long cause for regret. I shall, therefore, ask all subscribers wishing the four additional parts, at cost, to send One Dollar before Dec. 1st; if a sufficient number of subscriptions is not at hand then to complete the eight parts, the money will be returned and the work abandoned.

The new series will be issued more rapidly; the best part remains to be told; the family coat-of-arms is in the hands of the engraver, and we are also arranging for a handsome steel engraving of the Hon. Alpheus Felch, both suitable for framing, and to be given gratis to subscribers.

We trust all will respond promptly and cheerfully by Dec. 1, when the fourth part will be issued and the fifth begun.

The fourth part will contain a sketch of Hon. Alpheus Felch, and a portrait and sketch of Walton Cheever Felch, a prominent citizen of Sacramento, Cal.; we are also promised a portrait of Mr. Chester H. Felch, Natick, Mass.

The Author hopes to make a flying visit to you all next year, and to arrange for a Family Reunion in 1882.

THE MEMORIAL HISTORY

OF THE

Felch Family

IN

AMERICA AND WALES.

The Earliest and Latest Records,—1641—1881.

By W. Farrand Felch, Columbus, Ohio.

Press of J. F. Earhart & Co., Columbus, Ohio.
1881.

W. B. Felch

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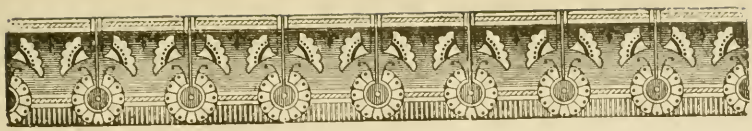
PART FOUR :— THE REVOLUTIONARY PERIOD.

The same, and not the same, for day by day
The babe takes on the child, till naught of babe's
Sweet self remains.
And on, through gradual steps, the process goes :
The youth drives out the child ; the man the youth,
For larger gains.



INTRODUCTORY.

The race of man is like the race of leaves. Human life is perhaps the most striking example of instability. The different stages of any life succeed each other insensibly, and yet so rapidly that no human foresight can prepare us for them.

In every community we find those who are leaders of action and thought; they seem indispensible, but one by one, they drop away, and in a few years their places are filled by others. Life becomes but a vapor that vanishes away. The sun rises and sets one day and follows the same course on the next day, circling ever in the same orbit. It is so in human life: one generation lives and dies, and leaves another like itself in its place. By these changes we have secured to us a permanence and stability. That which we call change is but a fashion of permanence. If the water only poured in one direction the streams would soon be exhausted.

Our humble annal has nearly reached the dividing lines laid between the two most prominent generations of our large family; hitherto our ancestors have been mainly pioneers, exotic to the new soil; they have established homes, and at their country's call, have protected them at the risk of their lives.

The Sixth generation endured toil, and hardship, struggles and privations; the Seventh generation enjoyed greater comforts and advantages, lived in easier circumstances, and also reached a higher grade of culture and education: this is said to be the most truly representative generation, thus far.

Chapter XIX. The Waterford Branch.

By Mrs. Elmore T. Ide, St. Johnsbury Vt.

"His aims range high as human soul can soar;
His spirit breathes as free as heaven's own
The love men need."

The Felch's in this vicinity originated with Joseph Felch, [80] who came to Waterford Vermont from Weare. He was the son of Joseph Felch, and was born in Seabrook, in 1765, April 28: one of a family of eight children. He married, in 1787, Sarah Ayer, by whom he had five children; he married in July 1799, Abigail Manchester, by whom he had nine children. There are now living thirty-six grand-children, and a large number of great-grand-children. When he came to this section, in 1786, it was nearly all wilderness; game was plenty consequently he became a great hunter of bears, deer, moose, and other large animals. He was a prominent man, occupying nearly all the town offices; besides being captain of militia for years: his sons inherited his valor, and four of them were captains, Ira, Joseph, John, and George; in religious belief he was a Universalist, which creed, at that time, was new in this section. The rite of baptism was administered to him by a Baptist minister,— an unusual proceeding; he took a great pleasure in studying the Bible, and was always glad to enter-

tain a minister of any denomination, for the sake of argument; his views were entirely original with himself, and were formed by study of the Bible, as he had never heard a Universalist minister when he formed his belief; he was always noted for being original in thought, firm and decided in action; his door was always open to the poor and needy. He came to Waterford with no means except two strong arms and an axe: what he accomplished can best be judged by what we have noted.

His children by Sarah Ayer were:

179 Samuel, born Dec. 4, 1789. He went to Connecticut in 1807, was imprisoned on board a British man-of-war in 1812, but there was too much loyal Felch blood in him for him to be of use to the enemy, and he was released. He married Eliza Sherman and by her had two sons: 1. John, who died in infancy. 2. Augustus, who died in the West Indies, in 1843, leaving that Ct. line extinct. Samuel died at Derby Conn., in old age.

180 Sarah, born July 6, 1791, md. Sylvester Wood, in Sept. 1806, at the age of 15; he died about 1810, and she subsequently married Thomas F. Sherman, of Lyndon Vt., 1814; she died at Lyndon, Sept. 17 1860, aged 69; no ch.

181 Carlton, born Nov. 8, 1793, died Sept. 1796, aged two.

182 Ira, born April 18, 1795, md. Mercy Ann S. Paine, Mar. 12, 1816, by whom he had fourteen children, all of whom lived until the youngest was of age; he died at Brownington, Vt. May 9, 1879, aged 84; his wife was born June 18 1792, and died April 3 1870, aged 77.

183 Ithemer, born July 18, 1797, died Nov. 1797.

Sarah (Ayer) Felch died Sept. 25, 1797; Joseph md. [2] Abigail Manchester, July 1799, by whom he had 9 children:

184 Cynthia, born Dec. 20, 1799, md. Henry Sherman, a brother of Thos. F., on June 19, 1819, leaving six children. She died Mar. 12, 1874 ,in Ashtabula Co., Ohio, where her daughter, Caroline C. md. John Felch of Seabrook.

185 Joseph born June 4, 1801, died Dec. 14, 1880, aged 79: he md. Eunice Brown in 1822-'23; she died 1863: 5 ch.

186 Carlton, born Feb. 13, 1803, died April 28 1835, aged 32. He md. Rhoda Hawkins in 1821, by whom he had 6 ch. He died at Harmony, Chautauqua Co., New York.

187 John, born Mar. 24, 1805, md. Frenda Powers Dec. 29, 1830, by whom he had two children, both now deceased: the parents now live at Passumpsic, Caledonia Co., Vt.

188 Mary, born Feb. 2, 1807, md. Wm. Adams, Dec. 14 1837. They had two children: Mary, born Mar. 17 1841, died Nov. 24 1841; 2. Cynthia L. born Aug. 27, 1844, md. on July 15 1862, to Elmore T. Ide. The parents live at Passumpsic. Mrs. Ide is author of this sketch.

189 Lucinda, born Jan 19 1809, md Samuel Church Feb 11, 1829; they live at Waterford Vt., and have five children: 1 Lovinia, 2 Curtis, 3 Lyman B., 4 Allen, 5 Celia.

190 Hannah born Dec 1 1810, md Archibald Lackie Feb 24, 1831: fourteen children were born to them, nine of whom reached maturity: Jennie, Cynthia E., an infant, Abigail, Milo, Henry, Laura, an infant son, Hannah, Cleora, Amelia, infant daughter, and Edwin.

191 George W., born Oct 19 1812, md Phebe Richardson on Dec 16 1835; she died Sept 23 1872 leaving seven children, three still living; he md [2] Lovinia C. Fuller June 1873, and lives at Waterford.

192 Curtis born May 17 1816, md Abigail Powers on May 19 1842; he died June 23 1844, leaving one daughter, Mrs. Abby C. Morse, of North Danville Vermont.

Subsequent generations will be given in future numbers. This family is noted for stalwart men.

Mr. John H. Felch, of Hancock, adds the following:

"There is found to have been 14 children, 62 grand-children, while the number of great-grand-children is unknown. In point of wealth, none of Joseph's descendants have been remarkably rich, but many of them 'well-off'; his son John has been a man of prominence, having held most of the officss within the gift of his townsmen. Farming has been the principal business of this numerous family, although some were prominent in other pursuits."

Chapter XX. The Weare Branch.

By Mr. John H. Felch, Hancock, N. H.

"A faculty for work, right earnest, brave, and keen
And work the very best the hand can do."

The facts I have hitherto collected I have correctly stated; much more might be said in regard to the character and the worth of this family; they undoubtedly had as few of the vices and as many of the virtues as families average. Temperate habits and long lives were characteristic; in this section, Joseph Senior's sons and grand-sons were all over six feet high, and one was six feet, six inches in height.

The children of Benjamin Felch, (82) as furnished by his son, President Felch, were:

193 Lucinda, born May 17 1800, md Moody Johnson of Sutton, and had six children; died July 11, 1879, aged 79.

194 Lucintha, twin sister of above, md John Manahan, 1818, and had eight children.

195 Samuel, born Aug 9 1802, md Sarah Scoles about 1828; she died within a year, and he md., 1829, Hannah Phelps of North Sutton, by whom he had four children. He died May 15 1843, aged 40.

196 Joseph born Mar 26 1805, died Aug 1861, unmarried.

197 Benjamin born June 20 1807, died Feb 1 1855 aged 47; he md Mar 1833, Lydia Hoit of Hopkinton, and had 9 ch.

198 Stephen born May 17 1810, md Lucinda Phelps in Oct. 1836 of Sutton; no children living.

199 Mary born Mar 10 1813 md June 1838 Horace J. Hoit.

200 Squire born Nov 6 1815 md Laura Ann Silver, April 15 1840; they had nine children.

201 Justice, born Aug 1 1820, md Almira Hutchinson April 15 1840: two children; he died Aug 23 1865 aged 45.

202 President, born Mar 26 1823 md his cousin Abigail Felch May 17 1849, lives at N. Weare; two children.

203 Ira born Aug 23 1825 died May 6 1876 md Nov 11 1852 to Phebe A. Brown of Danvers; four children.

Regarding the children of John Felch, (83) we are indebted to Mrs. John T. Felch of Francestown New Hampshire, for information; there were ten children:

204 Olive born Mar 7 1798 md Samuel Gould May 1 1823 and had four sons and three daughters. They lived at Whitefield Coos Co. New Hampshire.

205 Asenath, born Feb 26 1802, md Daniel Hadley, Nov 17 1822; he died in 1880, and his widow lives at Sherburne Rutland County Vermont.

206 Mary born June 6 1802, md Whitcomb May of Hancock, and had five sons and two daughters.

207 Irene born June 9 1804, md Rufus Moore on Aug 5 1840; she died June 1881 at Peterboro N. H.

209 Charlotte born Mar 26 1806 md Wm. Baldwin Nov. 17 1825; he died twelve years since, leaving wife and 3 ch.

209 John Thompson, born Mar. 13 1808, md June 4 1833 to Sarah L. Parker; they live at Francestown N. H., and have three sons and three daughters.

210 Samuel born March 24 1810, died in Florida, unmd.

211 Luke born July 28 1812 died Aug 11 1876 at Greenfield, N. H.; md Mrs. Lucy Ann Burnham [2] Elizabeth Wardwell, and [3] Mrs. Elizabeth Mann, surviving all: four daughters by first wife and one son by third wife.

212 Hiel born Nov 17 1814, enlisted when quite young in the U. S. regular army, was taken sick and died in the winter of 1834 in the New Orleans hospital, aged 20.

213 Chelmsford born Oct 4 1818, md a lady from Newburyport Mass., and worked at ship-building for several years.

CHAPTER XXI. THE SEABROOK BRANCH.

By Mr. Oliver Eaton, Hampton Falls N. H.

At last thou hast found a haven. Many a year
Has passed since first thy venturing foot-steps trod
Thy stately vessel's deck, and thy blue eye
Looked with a sailor's love on rope and spar.
* * Fare thee well!
And she who struggled 'gainst the tide with thee;
And dear one's, whose young lips have barely kissed
Life's changeful ripples; they who shared with thee
A sailor's trials.

In relation to Nicholas, [84] Mr. Eaton writes, recently:

"Nicholas was a soldier at the Battle of Bennington under the command of General Stark, where, tradition says, he performed good service; being in what was an untenable position, in his opinion, he took shelter behind a huge pine stump, from which he retreated not, until he had exhausted the contents of his bandoleers and powder-horn. His gait, unlike the martial tread of the soldier, was the light and rapid step of a huntsman, and he was a formidable antagonist as opposed to the Hessian and the Red Man. He was by trade a cooper, but attended mostly to the business of farming, fishing and fowling.

The children of Nicholas and Sarah [Gove] Felch were:

214 Nicholas born May 15 1781, died May 15 1817 aged 36. md Nancy Chase Dec 28 1804; she died Mar 4 1848, 5 ch.

215 Daniel born Mar 27 1783, died June 30 1863 aged 80, md Jane Putnam Oct 6 1810, had one dau; md [2] to Olive Maxwell Jan 3 1816: six children.

216 Edward born Oct 1785 md —— Heath; no children.
217 Lydia born Mar 1788 died Aug 28 1857 aged 69, married David Chase Feb 2 1807; he died Dec 8 1872.
218 Sarah born Sept 1790; md John Morrill 1812.
219 Hannah born Oct 1792 died Mar 10 1815, md John Locke.
220 John born June 1795 died Nov 15 1809 aged 14.
221 Jeremiah born 1797 died Aug 12 1824 aged 27, md Matilda Janvrin May 8 1821; two children.
222 Ezekiel born Oct 12 1799 died July 20 1870 aged 71, md Judith Swain April 9 1817; she died Aug 12 1877.
223 Samuel born May 10 1802, died Nov 17 1848 aged 46 md Susan E. Dow Nov 26 1826; she is living in Seabrook.

Nicholas, the eldest son, was a seaman and Master in the West India service, and settled in Newburyport. Daniel was a seaman and Master in the Coast service and settled in Newburyport. Edward was a farmer and settled in Enfield N. H. He died intestate, leaving no children. Jeremiah was a seaman in the schooner fishery and settled in Seabrook; Ezekiel was a seaman and Master in the schooner fishery and settled in Salisbury Mass., thence removed to Ashtabula Co., Ohio, on June 13 1843, where he left numerous descendants. Samuel was a farmer, also a seaman and Master in the schooner fishery and settled in Seabrook.

Samuel Felch [86] and Hannah [Harris] Felch had 2 sons:

224 Samuel born ——, md Betsey Leach Nov 18 1813.
225 William born ——, died Feb 21 1821, unmarried and intestate. He was found dead on the Essex Merrimack Turnpike road, in Salisbury, within about ten rods of the spot where his father was found dead.

Phineas Felch [89] md Sarah Ward, and had two ch.:

226 Sewall, born Nov 1797, died 1873, md Lodica Robinson, 1819–20, and had four children.
227 Clara born 1799, died 1830, unmarried.

Daniel (90) and Jenny [Eaton] Felch had eight children:

228 Jemima born Nov 18 1796 died Jan 2 1879 aged 82, md Isaiah Dow Feb 20 1814.

229 Josiah born June 22 1798 died Feb 2 1824 aged 25; marriage intentions between him and Rhoda Collins published.

230 Thomas born Nov 26 1800 md Sarah Brown Nov 16 1821.

231 Elias born Sep 11 1802 died Oct 19 1863 aged 65, md to Eliza B. Dow Aug 1821; md [2] Hannah Moody May 9 1863, widow of Joseph Moody.

232 Samuel born Jan 3 1804 md Nancy B. Dow Jan 20 1828.

233 Amos born Nov 20 1806 died Jan 21 1866 aged 59, md to Mary R. Rowe April 2 1828 by Rev. Zenas Adams. Four couples were md at the same time, at this event.

234 Reuben Derby, born 1810, died Mar 15 1842 aged 32 at the Mass. Hospital; md Elmira Eaton Nov 24 1831.

235 John born Aug 1813, md Nancy Walton in 1836.

Of the above, Josiah, Thomas, Elias, and Amos were all seamen and Masters in the schooner fishery, Samuel a seaman, Reuben and John followed the share fishery and farming; tradition says that John is the only seventh son born in Seabrook.

The children of Jacob [91] and Hannah [Harris] Felch:

236 Sarah, 237 Gorham, 238 Mary, 239 Joseph, 240 Charlotte, 241 Clara, 242 William, 243 Emeline, 244 Lucy.

No dates of this family have been furnished as promised. We hope to receive full dates before next issue.

THE CANTERBURY CONN. LINE: ADDITIONAL.

Since last issue we have received from Mr. Roswell Ensworth of Plainfield Conn., some additional data concerning the Canterbury branch; it appears that Samuel Felch, (65) had five other children: as their numbers should have begun at 100 we number them accordingly:

100 a Chester, born May 17 1771, died March 31 1776.

100 b Sarah, born April 3 1778, md ——— West, and died at Fon du Lac [?] Wisconsin, Feb 3 1861 aged 83.

100 c Martin born April 3 1781 died June 30 1867 aged 86 m. Chloe Ensworth, daughter of Jesse and Lotille; she b. Aug 9 1779 and died Nov 10 1862 aged 83. They had two children, twins, Mason and Jason, who died in infancy, the last male Felches of the Canterbury line.

100 d Mary born Oct 10 1783, md a Mr. Clark, late in life, died at Eastford Conn. Feb 7 1850 leaving no issue.

100 e Ruby born April 30 1786 died Feb 5 1853 aged 63, unmd.

Mary Felch, mother of above, died Mar 30, 1833 ag. 88.

Samuel Felch [65] father of above ch. died Feb 6 1815.

Samuel Felch [98] died June 30 1804; his wife, Electa, died April 13 1811 aged 47.

THE SEVENTH GENERATION.

"So the multitude goes, like the flower or the weed,
That withers away to let others succeed.
So the multitude comes, even those we behold,
To repeat every tale that so oft hath been told;
For we are the same that our fathers have been:
We see the same sights that our fathers have seen;
We drink the same streams, and we see the same sun,
And we run the same course that our fathers have run."

CHAPTER XXII. HON. ALPHEUS FELCH.

We have placed at the head of the seventh generation, very appropriately, the following autobiography of its most representative member. The sketch is copied from a volume entitled "Representative Men of Michigan."

"Hon. Alpheus Felch, Ex-Governor of Michigan, Ann Arbor, was born in Limerick, York County, Maine, September 28, 1806. His grandfather, Abijah Felch, was a soldier in the Revolution; when a young man, having with others, obtained a grant of land between the Great and Little Ossipee rivers, he moved to that region, while it was yet a wilderness. Mr. Felch's father, was brought up on the farm; but soon after attaining his majority, entered upon a mercantile life at Limerick. He was the first person to engage in that business, in that section of the country, and continued in it until his death, at the age of thirty-five. His family consisted of six children, Alpheus Felch being the only son. The death of the father, followed in a year by that of the mother, left the orphans to the care of the family relatives. The subject of the present sketch, then only three years of age, found a home with his paternal grandfather, with whom he remained until the latter's death. He enjoyed the usual advantages of early education in the district school, and afterwards in the neighboridg academy. In 1821 he became a student at Phillips Exeter Academy; and, subsequently entering Bowdoin College, graduated

with the class of 1827. Immediately after graduation, he began the study of law, and in the autumn of 1830 was admitted to the bar at Bangor Maine. In the same year, he engaged in the practice of his profession at Houlton, Maine, a new and sparsely settled portion of the state, where he continued until 1833. In the meantime, the severity of the climate had so impaired his constitution, never very robust, that he found it necessary to seek a residence in a warmer climate. In the spring of 1833, he disposed of his library and departed to seek a new home. His intention was to join his friend, Sargent S. Prentiss, then living at Vicksburg, Mississippi; but on his arrival at Cincinnati, Mr. Felch was attacked by the cholera and after recovering sufficiently to resume his journey, found that the danger from that disease was too great to permit a voyage down the river. He, therefore, determined to return to the North and came to Michigan. In this state he first commenced the practice of his profession at Monroe, and continued there until 1843, at which time he removed to Ann Arbor. He was elected a member of the State Legislature, from Monroe Co., in 1835, and continued a member of that body during the years 1836 and 1837. While he held this office the general banking law of the state was enacted, and went into operation. After mature deliberation he became convinced that the proposed system of banking could not prove beneficial to the public interests; and that, instead of relieving the people from the pecuniary difficulties under which they were laboring, it would result in still further embarassment. He, therefore, opposed the bill, and pointed out to the House the disasters which, in his opinion, were sure to follow its passage. The public mind

however was so favorably impressed by the measure that no other member, in either branch of the legislature, raised a dissenting voice, and but two voted with him in opposition to the bill. Early in 1838, he was appointed one of the Bank Commissioners of the state, and held that office for more than a year. During this time the new banking law had given birth to that numerous progeny known as "wild-cat" banks. Almost every village had its bank. The country was flooded with depressed "wild-cat" money. The examinations of the Bank Commissioners brought to light frauds at every point, which were fearlessly reported to the Legislature, and were followed by criminal prosecutions of the guilty parties, and the closing ot many of their institutions. The duties of the office were most laborious, and in 1839 Mr. Felch resigned. The chartered right of almost every bank had, in the meantime, been declared forfeited and the law repealed. It was subsequently decided to be unconstitutional by the Supreme Court of the state. In 1842 Mr. Felch was appointed Auditor General of the State ; but, after holding the office only a few weeks only, was commissioned by the Governor, as one of the Judges of the Supreme Court, to fill a vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Judge Fletcher. At the session of the Legislature held in January 1843, Mr. Felch was nominated by the Governor to the Senate and was confirmed by that body, both for the unexpired term of his predecessor and for the next ensuing full term of six years. In 1845 he was elected Governor of the state, and entered upon the duties of his office at the commencement of the following year. At the aession of the Legislature held in 1847, he was elected a Senator in Congress

for six years: and at once retired from the office of Governor by resignation which took effect on the 4th of March 1847, when his Senatorial term commenced. While a member of the Senate he acted on the Committee on Public Lands; and, during four years was its chairman. At the close of his Senatorial term in March 1853, he was appointed by President Pierce, one of the Commissioners to adjust and settle the Spanish and Mexican land claims in California, under the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, and an act of Congress passed for that purpose. He went to California in May 1853, and was made President of the Commission. The duties of this office were of the most important and delicate character. The interest in the new State and the fortunes of many of its citizens, both the native Mexican population and the recent American immigration; the right of the Pueblos to their common lands, and of the Catholic Church to the lands of the Missions,—— the most valuable of the State,—— were involved in the adjudications of this Commission. In March 1856, their labors were brought to a close by the final disposition of all the claims which were presented. The record of their proceedings,— the testimony which was given in each case, and the decision of the Commissioners thereon,—— consisting of some forty large volumes, was deposited in the Department of the Interior, at Washington. In June 1856, Mr. Felch returned to his home in Ann Arbor, where he has been engaged principally in the legal profession. Since that time he has been once nominated for Governor, once for the office of United States Senator, twice for that of Judge of the Supreme Court of the State; but, the Democratic party, to which he has always been at-

tached, being in the minority, he failed of an election. In 1873 he withdrew from the active practice of the law, and, with the exception of a tour in Europe in 1875, has since led a life of retirement at his home in Ann Arbor. In 1877 Bowdoin College conferred upon him the degree of LL. D. Mr. Felch is the oldest surviving member of the Legislature from Monroe County; the only surviving Bank Commissioner of the state; the oldest surviving Auditor General of the state; the oldest surviving Governor of the state; the oldest surviving Judge of the Supreme Court of Michigan: and the oldest surviving United States Senator from Michigan."

THE CANTERBURY CONN. LINE, COMPLETED.

Still her gray rocks tower above the sea,
That crouches at their feet, a conquered wave;
'Tis a rough land of earth, and stone and tree,
Where breathes no castled lord nor cabined slave.

John Felch, [96] who md Eunice Baldwin, had one dau.:

245 Polly, born Jan 22 1798, date of death unknown.

Samuel Felch [97] had three daughters:

246 Laura born Aug 22 1795, md Gideon M. Leonard.

247 Sophia born Feb 3 1796.

248 Lucretia born Nov 12 1798; md a Mr. Lord.

Martin Felch [99 c.; see page 84,] md Chloe Ensworth Feb 15 1810; she died Nov 10 1863, aged 83; he died June 30 1867; they had two children:

249 Mason born Mar 18 1812, died the same day.

250 Jason born Mar 18 1812 died May 3 1812. They were the last of the Canterbury line.

CHAPTER XXIII. THE ROYALSTON BRANCH.

By the late Wm. Felch, of Felchville, Vermont.

"Enough, if something from our hands have power
To live, and act, and serve the future hour;
And if, as toward the silent tomb we go,
Through love, through hope and faith's transcendant dower,
We feel that we are greater than we know."

Samuel Felch, [100] was born Feb 22 1748 and died at Royalston, Mass., Aug 30 1839 aged 91; by his first wife he had the following children:

251 Mary born Aug 29 1774, died at Fitzwilliam June 11 1855.

252 Samuel born May 15 1778, died at Fitzwilliam N. H. on Mar 9 1850; md in Boston, to Olive Whiton of Hingham who died Jan 13 1849.

253 John born Mar 17 1780, died Feb 4 1841 at Winchester, aged 60; md Susannah Brooks Mar 11 1802 in Reading Mass.: she was born Jan 8 1782, died June 7 1821.

254 Edmund born Feb 6 or 18 1782, died Dec 2 1824; he md Sally Richardson of Royalston: he was buried at Waterford Vermont; his widow at North Bay, Oneida Co. N. Y.

255 William born Oct 11 1784, died April 9 1795, aged nine.

256 Thomas born ——, died Aug 1789, aged 22 months.

Caleb Felch, [103] had seven children by his first wife:

257 Caleb born 1790, md Eliza Lockwood, and removed to New York city, and had four children, two died young;

Thomas, the eldest son, md in New York city, was once a merchant there, and died at some thirty years leaving a widow but no children; Charles, the second son, married, was a merchant, and died near the close of the Rebellion, leaving a widow and two bright young boys who if living are the only male descendants of Caleb Felch.

258 Francis born in Royalston, Dec 11 1791, died Feb 1 1815

259 Roxanna, born Sept 25 1793, died Feb 26 1815.

260 Hosea born June 17 1796, died in Reading Vermont., in the village of Felchville Aug 9 1851; he md Asenath A. Griswold, April 24 1838; they had four children. He owned a farm in the village, and possessed a superior intellect and great memory.

261 William born in Royalston Feb 3 1797, md Bethiah Peck of Cavendish Vermont; she was born Mar 20 1797, and died Aug 4 1875. They had four daughters.
[For sketch of his life, see Part First, also see portrait.]

262 Rebecca, born at Royalston Sept 20 1798, died in N. Y. city June 1863; md John Cuddy and had three children: Mary who died young, Robert, and Lorenzo.

263 Mary, twin sister of Rebecca, died at Royalston, Dec 30 1802; her death was caused by sitting down into a large kettle containing hot water; she lived but a few days.

264 Edmund, son of Caleb by his second wife Edy Morse, was also scalded to death, in the same kettle and at the same age,—— about four years of age.

265 Eliza born Feb 13 1801, died June 1841, md Joel Rowe, Jan 1819, and had seven children: Hosea F., Henry J., John, Frances, Alfred, Lucretia, and a dau burnt to death.

266 Catharine born Aug 21 1808, md Dec 7 1835 to Andrew Hawley of Rutland Vermont and had five children: Laura A., Alfred A., James K., Marcia C. (Fisk) and Ira W.

267 Ira, who died young.

Since last issue, we have learned from Mrs. Mary R. Milne that her grand-father, Samuel Felch [100] did not marry, as heretofore stated, Elizabeth Walton, but that his father was married to her in old age, she being a sister of his first wife. We are glad to make the correction at this point.

Mr. William Felch, in one of his last letters, wrote:

"My brother Hosea bought a small farm in our village in 1835 on which he died, leaving it to his widow and two daughters. His widow and daughter Kate (Mrs. Azro White) now own and occupy the same farm. He was a firm friend and brother of mine, and was much respected.

"Felchville is in the south-east corner of Reading on a level road, and received its name from the P. O. Department in 1830. Our village contains nearly seventy dwellings.

Miss. Rosetta Felch of Charlestown, subsequently wrote:

"The place, Felchville, was named after my cousin, Wm. Felch. It might be said that he built the place. He is a remarkable man in some respects. All that he ever possessed he got, under Providence by his own exertions, but he never seemed to be in any fret or hurry; he would carry everything right along before him; he was very much respected and depended upon in the town, and has been Justice of the Peace.

Nathan Felch, (104) whom we have noticed to some extent in Chapter XIII., was twice married; first to Mary Cheever, by whom he had eight children:

268 Nathan, born Sept. 17 1780, died Sept. 10 1835 at Dover, Dutchess County, N. Y. state, and was buried at Amenia same county. He md. Rebecca Shepard, the daughter of Allen and Anna (Hull) Shepard, and had ten children. She died 1861 or '62, and was buried at Madison, N. J.

269 Mary born June 15 1782, died in 1857 at Vershire Vt., aged 75; md 1, Edmund Towne, 2, Lyman Child.

270 Isaac Walton born April 6 1784, died Aug 31 1789 ag. 5.

271 Asahel born Nov 23 1785, died at Stockbridge Vermont, at the age of sixty. (See Obituarynotice in next Chapter.)

272 Cheever born Feb 27 1787, died Mar 27 1827, in N. Y. city; md Mary, daughter of Deacon Asa and Dorcas Hale and had six daughters; see next number; she died at Massena New York, Dec 12 1874, md June 20 1809.

273 Sally born June 23 1788, died April 16 1793, aged five.

274 Walton born April 21 1790, died at Boxboro' Mass. Apr. 12 1872, aged 82: md Lydia Inman June 7 1815.

275 Betsey born Mar 2 1792, died April 2 1821 at Cavendish Vermont, md —— Rowe: 2 sons, Ruel and Cheever.

Nathan md [2] Sally Wilkins of Reading Vt., by whom he had four children:

276 Pliny born April 28 1810, died July 8 1834, aged 24.

277 Absina, born April 6 1812 died July 24 1815, aged 3.

278 Rosetta born April 1 1815, lives at Charlestown N. H.

276 Absina A., born June 23 1819, lives at Waterbury Vt.

md July 1839 to Wm. H. Fargo, and had six children: Isabella, Mary J., James, George W., Charles, Wm. H., and Clara L. She lives with her eldest dau. Mrs. Russ.

Mr. William Felch wrote me at various times concerning this family, as follows:

"Cousin Nathan Junior, (your grand-father) made me a short visit when we lived in New York city, about 1823; he then lived up the North River, near Haverstraw, where he was preaching; years afterward, I discovered the name of his son, Rev. I. N. Felch in the Christian Advocate, as preacher on circuits, and as Presiding Elder. I have understood that cousin Cheever had a bright intellect and good learning for that day, that in early life he was a Methodist preacher subsequently joined the Episcopalians, and was Chaplain in the United States Navy, and after that edited Coram's Champion in New York city where he died. Cousin Walton visited us in 1845, and lectured on Phrenology and Mesmerism."

Additional reminiscences will be given in next number by Miss Rosetta Felch, Walton Cheever Felch, Allen S. Felch, and others.

OUR FRONTISPIECE.

We present, in this issue, the portrait of Walton Cheever Felch, of Sacramento California, son of Walton Felch, and brother of Hiram E. Felch whose portrait was given in No. One; we prefer to let him speak for himself, as he has, very modestly however:

"As to reminiscences of myself, it is a labor for which I have no taste. I came to this state, across the Rocky Mountains, in 1849; those who arrived in that year are now incorporated into a society under the title, The Pioneers of California, and I belong to the Sacramento Society of California Pioneers; of this society I have at present the honor of being the President. I have held some public positions under the City, State, and United States, but have had little taste for politics, and have rarely troubled its filthy waters; I have managed to keep my own hands clean enough to enjoy the respect of all honest men. When I am dead if I have accomplished anything worthy of commendation, let it be written."

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